

St. James the Great Catholic Primary School

Behaviour Policy

Mission Statement:

St. James the Great is a Catholic primary school. In partnership with the home and parish we aim to develop and strengthen the faith of each individual by living according to Christian values. We aim to educate our children to enable them to reach their full potential spiritually, academically and socially in order that their lives are brought to fulfilment in God.

Philosophy

At St. James the Great School we believe in encouraging the best behaviour by positive praise and the public reward of good behaviour. We recognise that while in school the good behaviour of the children is the responsibility of the parents and school staff working together. "It takes a whole village to raise a good child." (African proverb).

Code of Conduct

Our code of conduct encompasses all our school rules:

"Act with courtesy and consideration at all times and treat others as you would like to be treated yourself."

School Rules

1. Always follow directions.
2. Move quietly and gently around the school and classroom.
3. Be polite at all times and respect the opinions of others.
4. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
5. No answering back or abuse (verbal or physical).
6. Good behaviour both inside and outside the school.

Unacceptable Behaviour

1. Bullying, both verbal and physical.
2. Racism and sexism.
3. Swearing, shouting, abusive language, answering back to an adult
4. Disruptive behaviour, including fighting.
5. Vandalism.

Any unacceptable behaviour is always pointed out to the child. Should such behaviour persist, a very structured procedure of sanctions is followed through from stage 1 to stage 8. These range from "Time out " in another classroom to full exclusion from school.

A copy of this procedure is given to parents of children who reach stage 5 (persistent bad behaviour) and is also available to all parents on request.

I have read the St. James the Great Catholic Primary School Behaviour Policy and agree to support it fully. I understand that I can have a copy of the Procedure for Persistent Bad Behaviour at any time on request.

Signed _____ Print Name _____

Child's signature: _____

**ALL TEACHING STAFF
ANCILLARY STAFF
SUPPLY TEACHERS**

REWARDS AND SANCTIONS

Rewards:

Praise individuals and groups publicly.
Award stickers.
Send children to Head or other classes to reinforce positive praise for behaviour and outstanding work.
Give extra free time to child or whole class (use sparingly in order not to conflict with planned teaching time).
Certificates may be awarded for behaviour after recognised continuous effort.
Good behaviour can be entered in a Commendation Book kept on display centrally.
Inform parents.

Sanctions:

Always point out unacceptable behaviour immediately.
Give child a final warning.
Child is given "Time Out" for a specified time (e.g. 10 minutes) either in class or in another class.
Child's privileges are withdrawn e.g. loss of playtime (always supervised).
Child is sent to Head for a more formal reprimand.
Parents are informed.

Strategies for Managing/Avoiding Conflict:

Always be alert for potential trouble.
Separate culprits and give "Time Out".
Get all parties involved to agree facts.
Always remain calm. It is usually unnecessary to shout.
LISTEN to the children.
Always aim for a reconciliation.
Injuries must be reported to the Head or Deputy and details recorded.
Continue to praise good behaviour.
Always follow things up.
Be tactful and discreet at all times.

Procedure for Persistent Bad Behaviour.

1. When a child displays unacceptable behaviour it is always pointed out to the child and s/he is asked to modify their behaviour in future.
2. If the unacceptable behaviour continues the child will be given "Time Out" in the classroom where appropriate. This means they are isolated from other children for a specified length of time.
3. If the unacceptable behaviour continues the child will be sent to another classroom for a specified length of time. The teacher of that class will supervise the child and also reprimand them for their bad behaviour.
4. Continued unacceptable behaviour results in privileges such as playtime being withdrawn. Loss of playtime is always supervised.
5. If unacceptable behaviour persists the child is sent to the Head. Parents are informed at the earliest opportunity. Face to face is preferable, but it can be done by letter if necessary. Any letters sent to parents will have a tear-off slip at the bottom which must be signed and returned to the Head. We rely on parents to support the school's disapproval of unacceptable behaviour.
6. Should unacceptable behaviour continue after stage 5, a file will be opened on the child. Parents are always informed when this happens. The file is kept in the Head Teacher's office and any recurrence of unacceptable behaviour is entered on the file. At this point the child has three more chances. Once three more entries are on the file a further letter is sent home setting up a meeting between parents, Head, class teacher and any other relevant parties (e.g. Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator).
7. If there is no improvement in the child's behaviour then a second meeting will take place and all aspects of the child's behaviour will be monitored daily by a senior member of staff. A log of the behaviour will be sent home on a daily basis to be signed by parents. This is the very last step before exclusion is considered.
8. Exclusion is a last resort and is the decision of the Head. Parents are informed immediately. Exclusions can be for one day, a specified number of days or permanent. There is an appeals procedure and details of this will be given to the parents of children who are excluded. Any exclusions are always reported to the Governors.

There is necessarily an over-ride clause for exceptional cases of unacceptable behaviour. This allows the Head to bypass certain stages of the procedure and in the most extreme cases reach stage 8 (exclusion) immediately. Some examples of behaviour warranting the over-ride clause would be fighting or harming another child.