

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY



Blundell's

FOUNDED 1604



BLUNDELL'S BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Blundell's aims to encourage pupils to adopt the highest standards of behaviour, principles and moral standards and to respect the ethos of the school. Promoting the emotional well-being of all of our pupils is central to their development. We aim to teach trust and mutual respect for everyone. We believe that good relations, good manners and a secure learning environment play a crucial part in the development of intellectually curious pupils, who are motivated to become life-long learners. We develop qualities of team-work and leadership through our extensive programme of extra-curricular activities.

Blundell's is an inclusive community. We welcome pupils from a variety of ethnic and social backgrounds and faiths. We treat everyone as an individual and aim to develop the whole person equipped to take their place in the modern world.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Blundell's School community of Governors, staff, parents and pupils adhere to an established routine and code of conduct, rather than to extensive lists of rules. Blundell's sees education as a partnership. Our staff are committed to excellence, aiming to achieve a spirit of trust and cooperation. We expect the highest values and standards of behaviour inside and outside the classroom, as well as outside the school and in any written or electronic communication concerning the school.

We expect pupils to treat staff and each other with consideration and good manners and to respond positively to the opportunities and demands of school life. They should follow the School's Rules and Notes for Guidance and understand what is expected of them and why, as well as the consequences of poor behaviour.

Everyone has a right to feel secure and to be treated with respect at Blundell's, particularly the vulnerable. Harassment and bullying will not be tolerated. Our Anti-Bullying Policy is on our web site and relevant information is included within the House Handbooks. As is set out in our Equal Opportunities Policy, the school is strongly committed to promoting equal opportunities for all, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, physical disability or learning difficulty.

We expect pupils to be ready to learn and to participate in school activities. They should attend school and lessons punctually and follow the school's Attendance Policy. They should care for the buildings, equipment and furniture. We expect pupils to behave at all times in a manner that reflects the best interests of the whole community.

INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Parents and Guardians who accept a place for their child at Blundell's undertake to uphold the school's policies and regulations, including this policy when they sign the Parent Contract. They will support the school's values in matters such as attendance and punctuality, behaviour, uniform/dress and appearance, standards of academic work, extra-curricular activities and homework/private study.

We are always happy to consider suggestions from parents and hope that parents find the school responsive and open-minded.

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE

We will always telephone the pupil's home on the first day of an unexplained absence in order to confirm your child's safety. Please note that it is the Governors' policy usually not to allow holidays to be taken during term time.

INVOLVEMENT OF PUPILS

Our experience shows that the ethos of and respect for the school is enhanced by listening to our pupils and by encouraging constructive suggestions from them. This is usually done via their Tutor or Houseparent, but the Head can be contacted directly. We also regularly carry out pupil questionnaires and hold pupil consultations. In addition, the School Council, overseen by the Second Master, is a forum for pupils to pass on suggestions to the Senior Leadership Team.

SCHOOL RULES AND NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

The School Rules and Notes for Guidance are designed to encourage positive behaviour and self-discipline. Our aim is to reward and encourage good behaviour through our Recognitions and Rewards system. Sanctions help us to set boundaries and to manage challenging behaviour. Copies of the Rules and Notes for Guidance, which also contain our Recognitions, Rewards and Sanctions system, are set out on the school website and may change from time to time. Parents and Guardians undertake when signing the Parent Contract to support the authority of the Head in enforcing them in a fair manner that is designed to safeguard the welfare of the community as a whole.

The Head, for their part, undertakes to apply any sanctions fairly, and, where appropriate, after due investigative action has taken place. Sanctions may undergo reasonable change from time to time; but will not involve any form of unlawful or degrading activity. Serious sanctions are recorded in a Sanctions Log by the Second Master. Examples of sanctions include:

- Wednesday Detention
- Withdrawal of privileges
- Confiscation of property that is being used inappropriately or without consideration
- Assistance with domestic tasks, such as collecting litter
- Gating (a system of regular signing in)
- Withdrawal from a school trip or team event
- Suspension for a specified period, removal or expulsion.

The school's Exclusion Policy is set out on the school website, and all parents and pupils should be aware of the more serious sanctions, including suspension and expulsion that the Head can impose for serious breaches of the rules and regulations, including criminal behaviour. Such breaches are known as 'Serious Offences' and there are specific notes for guidance covering these. Serious Offences can include, but are not limited to:

- Drug abuse
- Alcohol and tobacco abuse
- Theft
- Bullying
- Physical assault/ threatening behaviour
- Sexual harassment
- Racist or sexist abuse
- Sexual misconduct

- Damage to property
- Persistent disruptive behaviour
- Parental behaviour

In applying sanctions, especially those with serious consequences, we undertake to take reasonable steps to avoid placing children with a disability, including any pupils with SEND, at a disadvantage compared to children who do not have a disability, including SEND.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Blundell's School will not use any form of corporal punishment. The prohibition includes the administration of corporal punishment to a pupil during any activity, whether or not within the school premises. The prohibition applies to all members of Staff. These include all those acting *in loco parentis*, such as unpaid volunteers.

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Like all schools, we reserve the right for our staff to use *reasonable force* to control or restrain a pupil in specific circumstances. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 enables school staff to use "such force as is reasonable in the circumstances to prevent a pupil from doing or continuing to do" any of the following:

- *"Committing any offence (or, for a pupil under the age of criminal responsibility, what would be an offence for an older pupil)"*
- *"Causing personal injury to any person (including the pupil themselves)"*
- *"Causing damage to the property of any person (including the pupil themselves)"*
- *"Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school, and among any pupils receiving education at the school, whether during a teaching session or otherwise"*

The Act also defines to whom the power applies as follows:

- *"Any teacher who works at the school"*
- *"Any other person whom the head teacher has authorised to have control or charge of pupils"*

All of our staff are trained in the circumstances in which reasonable minimum force may be used, both as part of their induction and regular refresher training on managing pupil behaviour. In particular, they are advised always to use their voices first, to use the minimum force necessary to restrain a child for the shortest possible period of time. Their training specifically deals with the factors that must be considered in reaching a judgement as to whether the use of physical restraint is appropriate that are set out in the ATL's Guidance "Restraint," that include:

- *"The seriousness of the incident, assessed by the effect of the injury, damage or disorder that is likely to result if force is not used"*
- *"The chances of achieving the desired result by other means"*
- *"The relative risks associated with physical intervention compared with using other strategies"*

Every member of staff will inform the Head as soon as possible after he/she has needed to restrain a pupil physically. We will always inform a parent when it has been necessary to use physical restraint, and invite them to the school, so that we can, if necessary, agree a protocol for managing that individual pupil's behaviour. Further details on this can be found in the policy 'Guidance on the use of reasonable Force to Control or Restrain pupils'.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Blundell's aim is to raise the aspirations of all its pupils and to help them to appreciate that there are no barriers to their potential achievements both inside and outside the classroom. Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. We celebrate success, emphasise the positive and deal with the negative in a sensitive and tactful way. Our teaching staff offer every child a high level of individual attention, together with consistent and helpful advice. In return, we expect every pupil to cooperate and to work hard.

COMPLAINTS

The School hopes that parents will not feel the need to complain about the operation of its behaviour management policy, and that any difficulty can be sensitively and efficiently handled before it reaches that stage. However, the school's Complaints Procedures can be found in our Complaints Policy. This is published on our website and copies are available on request.

REWARDS AND SANCTIONS

For the School's Rewards and Sanctions see the 'School Rules and Notes for Guidance'.

Author:	Second Master
Date:	Summer 2014
Last Reviewed:	Autumn 2022
Next Review Due:	Autumn 2024

Amendments:

Autumn 2020: grammatical errors only corrected

Governors Amendments Autumn 2020 –

- a) Unexplained absences – change child having accident to child safety
- b) Under School Rules – addition of Sanctions Log (Para 2) and included words children with SEND in final sentence

Autumn 2022: Date change and logo update only – no other updates required at time of review but will be updated as required

Blundell's School
Tiverton
Devon
EX16 4DN

Tel: 01884 252543
E.mail: info@blundells.org

www.blundells.org

