



# Hope Valley College

Nurture - Enrich - Achieve

## Parent's Guide to the College 'Good Behaviour Policy'

We are very clear that we want all students to access every learning opportunity and where the behaviour of students is affecting this we will challenge that behaviour. As a College we will promote an ethos that values all and has a sense of collective responsibility to ensure that behaviour promotes learning. All students can affect the ability of other students to learn, and students often do not see the impact on other students' learning. We recognise that behaviour is a form of communication and each individual is responsible for how they interact with others.

We have high expectations for our students. We are committed to offering the best possible care and guidance to our students and this is the principle that underpins the application of this policy. We believe that every student, with the right support and engagement is capable of meeting our standards. We believe that this will support the happy, compassionate College ethos we promote and is key to ensuring every child fulfils their potential.

## **Expectations**

As a staff we will:

- Be aspirational and have high expectations of students
- Be consistent in our use of rewards and consequences
- Share good practice within College in order to support students
- Use approaches, such as 'emotion coaching' in supporting students to modify and change their behaviour
- Be positive with students and endeavour to have a 'clean slate' approach

To support behaviour, staff will have consistently high expectations of what each student can achieve. We will model behaviour and expectations for students. We will support students in learning how to accept the perspective of others and restore relationships within College when students' behaviour has fallen below expectations.

Students will:

- Attend all lessons
- Actively engage in every learning opportunity, in and out of the classroom
- Respect others and respond in a manner that is appropriate
- Attend College, in correct uniform, fully equipped and ready to learn.
- Follow all reasonable requests from any staff member, in a timely, appropriate fashion

We ask that parents/carers:

- Report to College immediately any home concern or issue that you think may affect their child's behaviour and engagement in College
- Re-enforce College expectations frequently
- Use ClassCharts to keep in touch with their child's positive and negative behaviour events as input by staff
- Join College staff in recognising and praising their child's positive attitude in College
- Support College when negative behaviour results in College sanctions
- Use the appropriate avenues for complaint if a parent is unhappy with a decision taken by College staff

As a College we will look to nurture our students and recognise the positive behaviours that they display. There are a wide range of rewards that staff can use to recognise the behaviour and effort of students. These may include:

- Housepoints
- Positive praise postcards
- Contact with home to share positive feedback
- Perfect Term and Perfect Year certificates
- Termly house assemblies
- End of year awards
- Other informal ways of celebrating the success of students

Students will be challenged when their behaviour is below these standards. For example when:

- their behaviour disrupts their own learning or the learning of others
- their effort in activities is not consistent their capabilities

- they fail to attend lessons or believe that they can 'opt out' of learning opportunities
- they show disrespect to any member of the College community or directly making another individual uncomfortable

As a College we are very clear that we will not tolerate the following:

- Discrimination and bullying behaviour
- Violence and aggression towards others
- Dangerous conduct that puts others at risk
- Use of illegal substances
- Truancy

We look to staff to use a wide range of strategies to support students in creating a positive learning environment. However, if staff feel that more informal strategies are not eliciting a modification of behaviour, students will be given the **choice** to change their behaviour, the **chance** to make the right decision and then a **consequence** if the behaviour does not change.

### **Recognition and Praise for positive behaviours**

- Students will be given verbal/written praise on effort and achievement.
- House points will be issued to recognise an individual's effort or attainment that goes beyond basic expectations.
- Positive Behaviour Events will be recorded on the management system so that parents can view these.
- Staff may contact home when students have shown an outstanding individual / effort / achievement. This also includes departmental post cards.
- Perfect Term Certificates - awarded at the end of each term to recognise consistent levels of behaviour and achievement.
- Awards Ceremony - End of year to recognise progress / attainment and outstanding achievements in key areas.

### **Dealing with negative behaviours**

Staff are required to use their discretion when challenging behaviour in classrooms. If a student's behaviour is disrupting the learning environment and they have not made the appropriate choices, they may be required to work in another classroom or to work away from the classroom. This is to allow the learning of other students to continue. Staff will determine whether a further consequence is required. This might include social isolation, faculty detention, after-school detention or isolation. This will be decided based on the individual student and the set of circumstances.

As part of this process staff will discuss with the student the behaviour, what might have caused it and how it can be avoided on future occasions. This is to support students in reflecting on their behaviour, outside of the situation, and helping them to understand why that behaviour was inappropriate and damaging to their learning. In the vast majority of cases we expect that students will be able to demonstrate the appropriate behaviour to support their learning and move forward.

If the behaviour of a student falls below expectations over a period of time, or deteriorates rapidly, broader strategies will be used. These may involve:

- A review of a student's needs to identify any necessary reasonable adjustments
- Report system
- On-going contact with parents/carers
- Mentoring work
- Withdrawal of privileges
- Personalisation of the curriculum
- Referral to external agencies
- Alternative educational placements
- College Management Team (CMT) contract
- Governor's contract

On occasions students may also receive a pre-exclusion warning meeting where concerns about a student's behaviour will be outlined and agreement reached about future conduct. Other strategies may be implemented at this stage.

A student may also receive a fixed term exclusion. This could be as a result of a serious breach of behaviour expectations. The principal will take the decision to exclude a student in consultation with the wider College management team. All exclusions must be fair and legal following the statutory guidance from the DFE.

Following a fixed-term exclusion, a re-integration meeting will take place with the student, a parent/carer and a senior member of staff. At this meeting further support will be discussed, as well as expectations about future conduct.

There are situations where the decision may be taken to permanently exclude a student. There are two situations where this decision would be taken:

- A final formal step in a structured process that deals with persistent and on-going refusal to conform to the College's expectations. This will be done only after a wide range of strategies have been used to support the student. The decision is a clear acknowledgement that these strategies have not been effective and the student has not sufficiently modified their behaviour
- Where there are exceptional circumstances and it is decided that implementing other strategies is not appropriate. Such circumstances may involve:
  - Serious actual or threatened violence against a member of the College community
  - Systematic abuse of a member of the College community
  - Sexual abuse or assault
  - Supplying or carrying illegal drugs
  - Carrying or using an offensive weapon
  - Arson
  - Any offence that the College deems serious enough to warrant exclusion.

A full version of this policy is available on the College website. A paper copy is available on request.