



Southport
Learning
Trust



BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES POLICY

Policy Approved: September 2024

Policy Review: September 2025

“The Trustees of the Southport Learning Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people at every opportunity and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment”

AIMS AND POLICY STATEMENTS

This policy makes clear the attitudes and values of Maghull High School and illustrates the processes involved in ensuring students develop responsibility for a self-directed approach towards their conduct throughout their school life. Good order and discipline are essential to the success of the school, as learning takes place best when students understand and take responsibility for their behaviour.

For this policy to be effective it has to be accepted and understood by all those involved in the school. All members of the school community have an important role to play in the implementation of this policy to ensure it is consistently applied.

Whilst the overall aim is concerned with providing guidance on expected standards of good conduct, the school also believes in the importance of individual growth and personal development. We believe it is the right of every individual to learn within a safe and orderly environment, which is free from disruption, violence, bullying and any form of harassment. Therefore, we promote equality and fairness for all.

Working in close partnership with parents and guardians is an integral part of the School's Behaviour and Attitudes Policy. Parents/ guardians are encouraged to support students to take responsibility for their actions and we will always share our concerns in an open and transparent manner.

It is the responsibility of everyone in the school to act with courtesy and consideration towards others at all times. We recognise that if all in the school community work hard, respect themselves and respect others then good conduct will follow and a calm and orderly learning environment will be achieved.

Bullying of any form will not be tolerated. It is at odds with Maghull High School's core values and it will be dealt with sensitively and appropriately, in accordance with the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.

The implementation of the Behaviour and Attitudes Policy is dependent upon all stakeholders within the school community upholding the key principles and practices outlined below:

- Strong school leadership which promotes a culture of high expectations
- A consistent approach to behaviour management, including the application of rewards and sanctions
- Effective and positive classroom management which creates an environment in which all students engage with their learning
- The teaching and modelling of good behaviour by the school's staff and senior students
- Strong systems of support for students, staff and parents/guardians to promote good behaviour
- Regular liaison and contact with parents/guardians and outside agencies
- The promotion of an orderly school environment, in which students behave sensibly and with consideration for others and the environment, both during lessons and outside lessons

As members of the community, all students have responsibilities; in particular, they are expected to behave responsibly, safely, politely and with respect and common sense at all times, and to take full responsibility for all their actions. Central to good behaviour are three core expectations to which all students are expected to adhere: work hard, have respect for yourself and have respect for others.

To assist students in meeting these high expectations, the school has laid down a simple set of expectations and rules. This is known as the 'Maghull High Way'. All students must follow the school expectations and rules at all times and accept the consequences if the rules are broken.

School Expectations – Maghull High Way

Aspire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend every day and every lesson on time• Wear full school uniform worn smartly and with pride• Be fully equipped every day for all lessons
Achieve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be ready to learn and listen to all instructions – First time every time• Stay engaged and always try your best• Take pride in your work and achievements
Enjoy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treat all members of the school community with kindness, dignity and respect• Move in a calm and orderly manner taking responsibility for the school environment• Embrace all opportunities that are offered throughout the school

Standards

Uniform

Students are to wear the correct uniform at all times with shirt/blouse tucked in.

Ties to display at least 4 stripes and with top buttons fastened. Clip on ties are recommended.

All students to wear appropriate school shoes that are flat, ankle high and polishable. Trainers and boots are not allowed to be worn during the school day. We do not allow any sportswear branded school shoes including Adidas, Asics, Hoka, Lonsdale, Nike, New Balance, On Cloud or Puma. Trainers can be worn during PE lessons or if playing sports on the field at lunchtime. If worn at lunchtime, students are to ensure they change back into their school shoes before period 4. Any student arriving to school wearing trainers will be given a standards log, and be given school shoes to wear. If there is a period of time in which a student is required to wear trainers on medical grounds, medical evidence must be provided and shared with the pastoral manager who will authorise the wearing of trainers for a set amount of time. If trainers are worn for a temporary period, the pastoral manager will be the only member of staff to authorise this and will therefore need clear communication from parents as to how long students will wear trainers for.

All students in years 7, 8 and 9 wear a blazer. Blazers should be worn at all times around school and can be taken off in lessons at the teacher's discretion. Blazers are not to be kept in bags. Coats are not to be used in place of a blazer. All students to wear a jumper in years 10 and 11.

One outdoor coat is permitted in school and should be removed before entering classrooms and assembly halls.

Jewellery - students are allowed to wear one pair of studded earrings and a wrist watch. No other jewellery should be worn at any time in school. Items such as bracelets, necklaces and rings will be confiscated. Facial and other piercings must be removed for school.

Hairstyles - While the school respects the wishes of parents and students in determining their own hair styles, extreme and unnatural colours should be avoided. Long hair should be tied back as requested for health and safety reasons.

Makeup – Subtle makeup can be worn by students, however, students wearing excessive makeup will be asked to remove it. False nails are not allowed. Nails should be natural and free from products.

Mobile phones and other devices

Students may bring mobile phones to travel to and from school with however, students are not allowed to use their phones, ear pods, or any other devices once past the school gates. No device should be seen or used anywhere on the school site. If devices are seen by a member of staff, they will be confiscated and handed into student reception

where students can collect them at the end of the school day. Should a student refuse to hand over their device upon the first request, a member of the pastoral or senior leadership team will remove the item and the student will receive a behaviour log and lunchtime detention. Continued failure to follow instructions regarding devices on site will result in escalation through the sanction system. Smart watches can be worn in school but only used as a timepiece and not for any form of communication. If used for communication or games, smart watches will be confiscated. Research has consistently shown that in the highest performing schools students do not use mobile phones, as students benefit from the time away from them and the distraction they may bring. In exceptional circumstances students and parents can be contacted via the school office. Only students with medical reasons will be granted permission to use their phone within school grounds.

Equipment

All students should have a school bag that is large enough to fit an A4 folder and the following equipment:

1. Clear pencil case with at least two black or blue pens for handwriting, a green pen for assessment, pencil, ruler, rubber
2. Scientific calculator
3. School planner
4. PE kit when needed

Equipment will be checked each morning by form tutor. If any student does not have the basic equipment they may be issued with it for the day.

Drinks

Students are encouraged to carry water with them in a refillable bottle. Fizzy/carbonated drinks of any kind are not to be consumed in school. Fizzy/carbonated drinks will be confiscated and students will need to collect them at the end of the school day. Students who refused to hand over fizz/carbonated drinks first time, will be issued with a lunchtime detention. Continued failure to follow instructions regarding fizzy/carbonated drinks will result in escalation through the sanction system.

Students are allowed to bring diluted cordial in their own bottle or milk. Other drinks available in the school canteen can be consumed.

Punctuality

Students should be in their tutor rooms by 8:50am every day. Student who arrive after this time, without a valid reason, will be marked as late.

Students are expected to arrive to lessons on time after break and lunch.

At the end of each lesson, a bell will sound and will allow students five minutes to arrive at their next lesson. A second bell will sound after five minutes and all students should be in lessons and ready to learn. Any student who arrives to their lesson after the second bell has rung, without valid reason, will be marked as late.

If a student is late, they will receive a standards and expectations log.

3 standards and expectation logs per week will result in an after-school detention.

Learning environment

Learning and achievement are at the heart of our community. We expect the highest standards of behaviour during lessons. Classrooms including laboratories, workshops, sports facilities and other teaching environments are places of work and there are clear set rules and expectations for their use. These will enable everyone to work in safety and with enjoyment.

Rewards

Commending students for their good conduct and achievements promotes a positive environment that is conducive to learning and personal development, and encourages students to behave responsibly and respectfully. The overwhelming majority of students make a very positive contribution to the life of Maghull High School and are

recognised for this. Students are rewarded for going 'above and beyond' minimum expectations in accordance with the criteria set out in the Rewards Policy.

All lessons will include a 'powerful ending' in which staff dedicate the final five minutes of each lesson sharing reward points with students and awarding a 'student of the lesson award'.

Classroom expectations

- Enter the room calmly, fully equipped and ready to learn
- Sit in the seating plan as allocated by the teacher
- Take out your equipment and answer your name on the register
- Remain quiet until it is your turn to speak, respectfully listening to others
- Stay on task and try your best
- Pack away sensibly leaving your work area tidy
- Exit calmly when dismissed

Classroom Discipline

- In all but obvious emergencies, and those with medical passes, students are not allowed to visit toilets during lesson time. Students must have their planner signed, and pass available, from the teacher. Toilets are open before school, during each lesson changeover, at break, lunchtime and after-school. Toilets will be staffed to ensure they are used appropriately, minimising anti-social behaviour.
- Students are only to be dismissed after the school bell has rung. Students will then have a five minute changeover time to arrive to their next lesson. Students must arrive to their next lesson before the second bell sounds or they will be marked as late, receiving a standards and expectations log.
- Some students will be given a movement pass, allowing them to leave lessons five minutes earlier to help them move around the site. Such passes are given only on medical grounds and students in possession of one will be required to return from break and lunch five minutes early.
- Classrooms are to be left tidy and students are to exit in an orderly manner at the end of every lesson.
- The school's ethos of encouragement is central to the promotion of good behaviour. Rewards are one means of achieving this. They have a motivational role in helping students to realise that good behaviour is valued and are clearly defined in the Rewards Policy. Integral to the system of rewards is an emphasis on both formal and informal praise to individuals and groups.

If disciplinary measures are necessary for classroom offences the following procedures will be adhered to, only moving to the next option if the situation does not improve:

- **Choice:** students will be reminded of the Maghull High Way and classroom expectations. They will be given the option to make the right choice in amending their behaviour.
- **Chance:** students will be given a final reminder that if their behaviour does not improve in line with classroom expectations, they will receive a log and a sanction.
- **Consequence:** If there has been no improvement, students will receive a behaviour log and will be issued with lunchtime detention.
- **Removal from lesson:** If a student is needed to be removed from the lesson, they will be collected by On Call and sent to isolation for the remainder of the lesson and will be issued with a lunchtime detention.

Action Taken	Consequence	Communication
'Choice' - warning 1	Reminder to students of expectations	None recorded
'Chance' – warning 2	Final reminder to students of expectations	None recorded
'Consequence'	Behaviour log and lunchtime detention.	Recorded on Arbor.

		Communicated to parents by the class teacher.
On Call	Removal from lesson and escorted to isolation room for remainder of lesson. Behaviour log. Lunchtime detention.	Recorded on Arbor. Communicated to parents by Assistant Heads of Year. Conversation between staff and student before integration back to lesson.

On Call

Daily support offered by the Senior Leadership Team to promote and establish a positive learning culture. On Call can also be used to address behaviour incidents that have an impact on learning and the learning of others. The On Call system is to be used when all other options have been exhausted.

Addressing poor behaviour and consequences

When dealing with incidents of poor behaviour, the following principles will be applied:

- Poor or disruptive behaviour during lessons will not be tolerated – every student has the right to an education and the school will not accept behaviour by a minority of students that prevents others from learning.
- Where appropriate, the school is committed to working with other agencies in order to support students to bring about improvements in their behaviour.
- Students who use technology such as the internet and mobile phones to cause harm, distress or humiliation to others will be dealt with very seriously. This also applies to such behaviour which takes place outside school.
- The school seeks to make all students aware of the consequences should they choose to misbehave. Understanding probable consequences is important in guiding students to make the right decisions and is intended to promote good behaviour.
- Where a student has misbehaved, the matter will be investigated and, if considered appropriate, a consequence will be imposed.
- A student may be taken out of circulation whilst a breach of the policy is investigated.
- In most cases, the most effective consequences are completed expeditiously and as soon after the event as possible.
- Students will be given the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour and demonstrate that they have learned from their experience and their impact on others.
- A consequence will never be humiliating or degrading and blanket punishments will not be imposed.
- When issuing a consequence, a student's prior conduct may be taken into consideration.
- Disciplinary action taken against a student will not be discriminatory and the school will promote equality at all times.

Examples of behaviour that could result in a warning ('Choice'/'Chance')

- Attitude to learning: Low-level disruption, talking, moving around the classroom without permission, lack of focus, lack of effort, incomplete or no homework

Examples of behaviour that could result in a behaviour log and a lunch detention ('Consequence')

- Lack of respect
- Persistent low level disruption despite warnings
- Removal from one lesson
- Failure to follow a reasonable instruction
- Disrupting the learning of others
- Low level misuse of social media
- Failing to hand over items that should not be in school when asked first time
- Entering an unauthorised area of the school

Examples of behaviour that could result in a 40 minute after-school detention (Monday-Friday 3:20pm-4pm)

- More than one behaviour log within the same day
- Removal from more than one lesson per day
- Truancy from one lesson
- Acquiring three standards and expectations logs per week.
- Failure to hand over a mobile phone, ear pods or devices
- Inappropriate use of social media including following of inappropriate accounts
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Graffiti

Examples of behaviour that could result in a 60 minute after-school detention (Friday 3:20pm-4:20pm)

- Failure to attend two after-school detentions

Examples of behaviour that could result in a day of internal suspension

- Persistent truancy within one day
- Failure to attend three after-school detentions
- Anti-social behaviour
- Repeated intentional behaviours
- Inappropriate use of social media including in-school filing / posting
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Intimidating behaviour towards another member of the school community; low level conflict / physical contact
- Swearing
- Discriminatory behaviour directed towards another member of the school community
- Vandalism of school property

Examples of behaviour that could result in 2 or more days of internal suspension or external suspension

- Failure to complete internal isolation
- An accumulation of behaviour logs
- Foul and derogatory language towards a member of staff or student intimidation of staff member
- Smoking, including vaping under suspicion of smoking or associating with other students who are suspected of smoking. This includes smoking when in uniform in the community

- Bullying
- Intimidation of a staff member
- Damaging or stealing school property or that of peers intentionally
- Misuse of the fire alarm
- Serious act of aggression - fighting; aggressive confrontation high level
- Alcohol / substance misuse
- Failure to follow reasonable instructions
- Disrespectful and uncooperative behaviour
- Prejudice with intent directed towards other pupils or staff to deliberately try and sabotage reputation
- Serious misuse of social media which targets a member of the school community in an attempt to damage reputation
- Bringing the school into disrepute (needs to imply serious)
- Theft / stealing
- Any act which poses a health and safety risk to the school community

Procedures and Processes

The school's procedures and Home School Agreement make clear to students how acceptable standards of behaviour can be achieved and have a clear rationale, which is made explicit to staff, students and parents. The procedures will be consistently and fairly applied and promote the idea of personal responsibility and that every member of the school has a responsibility towards the whole community.

Behaviour Logs

Behaviour Logs are divided up into the following 3 categories:

Standards and Expectations:

1. *Perfect Uniform*
2. *Correct Equipment*
3. *Punctuality*
4. *Homework/Deadlines*

3 standards and expectation logs per week will result in an after-school detention.

Truancy

One truancy log per day will result in an after-school detention. More than one instant of truancy per day will result in internal suspension the following day.

Behaviour

One behaviour log per day will result in a lunchtime detention. More than one behaviour log per day will result in an after-school detention

A brief description is given to outline the incident.

Once a behaviour is logged an appropriate sanction will be allocated on the school MIS system.

Sanctions

All logs in lessons should be allocated with a lunchtime detention issued within a 24 hour period.

An after-school detention of 40 minutes will be issued as an escalation and will take place within a 24 hour period at the following times:

Monday- Friday: 3:20pm-4pm

Failure to attend an after-school detention twice, will result in a **60 minute after-school detention** taking place on a **Friday**.

Internal isolation **8.50am – 4pm** (Head of Year/Senior staff to authorise)

Suspension (Deputy Headteacher/Headteacher to authorise)

Governor Disciplinary panel

Managed move within local authority

Permanent exclusion

Detentions

Schools have a statutory right (Education and Inspections Act 2006) to use detention as a sanction, both within the school day and out of normal school hours. The school believes detentions are a valuable tool in reinforcing behaviour expectations. Parents/carers will be given sufficient notice of a detention that takes place out of school hours. A student who misses a detention without good reason will be expected to serve the detention and may receive a further appropriate sanction.

Lunch detention:

- Take place at lunchtime each day for 20 minutes from 12.40-1.00pm – or from the arrival time of the student
- Detentions are coordinated by the Assistant Head of Year and Head of Year
-

40 minutes after-school detention:

- To take place on Monday from 3.20pm – 4pm and managed by leaders
- An Arbor message will inform a parent that a detention will take place and that failure to attend or complete this in a suitable manner will lead to a further, higher sanction
- In detention, students will complete subject based work provided by a teacher and have the opportunity to speak to staff member issuing the detention as part of a restorative approach
- Failing to be on time for detention, work in silence and reflect suitably on their behaviour will lead to an escalation
- At the end of the detention, the parent /carer of any students who did not attend/complete the detention will be contacted to explain the next step

60 minute after-school detention:

- To take place every Friday for 60 minutes from 3.20 – 4.20pm
- A text alert will inform a parent that a detention will take place the following evening and that failure to attend or complete this in a suitable manner will lead to the student being removed from lessons
- Failing to be on time for detention, work in silence, reflect suitably on their behaviour will lead to an escalation on the following school day and parents will be informed by the SLT member

Detentions will only be changed in exceptional circumstances and only through contact with a parent or carer.

Internal Isolation:

- To operate from 8.50-4.00pm Students should sign in at reception at 8.50am and will be met by the Behaviour and Engagement Leader who will escort the pupils to the removal area.
- In the first 15 minutes, pupils will read the rules of the Independent Study room and complete reflection work on why they are there.
- Each pupil will have access to a computer where they can access their email / VLE to receive information on their work for the day.
- Pupils will be allowed opportunities for comfort breaks during the day outside of normal break times. They will be escorted to the canteen for lunch at 12.15pm which should be pre-ordered or brought to school
- During this day the children will have opportunities to work with a professional on reforming their behaviour

- A parent / carer meeting will take place on the students return to school circulation after a suspensions at the discretion of the Deputy Headteacher/ Headteacher
- Repeated offences will result in escalated sanctions
- Students will be dismissed at 4pm. Parents and carers are responsible for arranging transport home from school for students.

Same day isolation

- If a student is removed from their lesson, they will be collected by On-Call and sent to work in isolation for the remainder of that lesson. A lunchtime detention will be issued.
- If a student is found truanting one lesson, they be will given the opportunity to return to lesson. Failure to comply will result in a student working in isolation for the remainder of the lesson. Parents will be informed and an after-school detention will be issue.

Reasonable considerations

Careful consideration will be given on an individual basis for such students and reasonable adjustments will be made where possible. However, the basic right of all students and staff to be part of a safe school community will always remain central to any adjustments made.

The school recognises that some students have a SEND such as those with ADD/ADHD, autism or attachment disorder who have additional needs that may accelerate them to the higher levels more quickly.

Students may be given an additional verbal or visual reminder of the expectations, time to process the reminder and an opportunity to regulate their own behaviour, preferably in a 1:1 situation or out of the room, before any escalation of consequences. Reasonable adjustments are identified on Arbor and within students PSP or SEND profile.

Staff recognise and are trained to understand that a response to being challenged may be an impulsive reaction as opposed to further intentional misbehaviour and time to regulate will be offered.

The relevant Senior or Middle leader, SENDCO, Pastoral Manager, Head of Year will be informed about repeat incidents of poor behaviour by students for whom reasonable adjustments are in place.

Pastoral Reports

Students receiving multiple behaviour logs may be placed on pastoral report. Report cards are used to help support students who have experienced behavioural challenges, and or struggle with punctuality. These are issued by the Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year and are monitored daily. Students who do not respond positively to report will be placed on 'Behaviour Watch' to monitor their behaviour across a fixed period of time with rewards and sanctions agreed with parents/carers at the outset.

Governor Disciplinary Panel

Governor disciplinary panels are arranged for students that have received a number of behavioural points over a period of time and or have also received at least one fixed term external suspension. Students and parents/carers are invited to appear before a panel of governors to review their behaviour. Actions are agreed and a timescale of improvement is set. The purpose of such a serious measure is to give the student an opportunity to account for their behaviour and conduct to Governors and benefit from the guidance Governors will provide.

RRR

The RRR (Reflect/Recover/Reintegrate) facility is used to offer short term respite for students from individual subjects, offer one to one intervention and support students joining or leaving the school. The RRR also supports students who are internally suspended. This facility is staffed consistently by the Behaviour and Engagement Leader.

Recording - Arbor

All behaviour and achievement points are recorded on Arbor for individual student. Additional support and contact with parent/guardian or other stakeholders are recorded by the class teacher and support staff.

Suspensions

The decision to externally suspend is not taken lightly as it is a serious sanction and will only be used when serious breaches of the school's Behaviour and Attitudes Policy occur or when a student is persistently poorly behaved. The school prefers to keep students in school and will consider imposing an internal suspension before a fixed term external suspension.

In some circumstances, however, it may be necessary and appropriate to suspend a student for a fixed period of time.

A parent/carer meeting will take place on the students return to school.

Permanent Exclusion

A permanent exclusion is the ultimate sanction and will only be used where very serious breaches or persistent serious breaches of this Policy have occurred. The school follows the statutory guidance set out in the 2022 DfE guidance 'Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement'.

Where a student is permanently excluded from school the Headteacher's decision will be reviewed by the Governing Body in accordance with the guidelines set out in the 2022 DfE statutory guidance. This function will be delegated to the Governors' Disciplinary Committee.

Where a permanent exclusion has been imposed, the Governors' Disciplinary Committee must meet to review the decision and has the power to reinstate. In the case of a permanent exclusion, if the Governors' Disciplinary Committee uphold the Headteacher's decision, the parents or carers of the child have the right to make representations to an Independent Review Panel.

Roles and Responsibilities

Local Governing Body (LGB)

The LGB is responsible for monitoring this Behaviour and Attitudes policy's effectiveness and holding the Senior Leadership Team to account for its implementation.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The Senior Leadership Team is responsible for reviewing and approving this Behaviour and Attitudes Policy. The SLT will ensure that the school environment encourages and rewards positive behaviour and that trained staff deal effectively with poor behaviour, and will monitor how staff implement this policy to ensure rewards and sanctions are applied consistently.

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Implementing the behaviour policy consistently and equitably
- Teaching and modelling positive behaviour and expectations
- Providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular students

- Recording behaviour incidents accurately

The Senior Leadership Team support staff in responding to behaviour incidents.

Role of Parents/Carers

On admission to school, parents/carers students and the Headteacher sign the Home School Agreement. This agreement clarifies the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders, and clarifies expectations.

Where breaches of the Behaviour and Attitudes Policy have occurred, the school will seek to involve parents and carers from the outset and will strive to provide them with accurate and timely information. Where there may have been a serious breach of the behaviour policy and it is necessary to interview a student, parents/carers will be contacted and offered the opportunity to attend the interview. In such situations, a written record of the interview will be taken and those present will be requested to sign. On other occasions, it may also be necessary and appropriate for parents/carers to attend a meeting in school concerning their child's behaviour.

Behaviour in the Wider Community

Students are ambassadors of the school and are expected to represent the school well when out in the community and show due regard for the school's neighbours. Under section 89 (5) of the Education and Inspections Act (2006), teachers, support staff and all persons acting on behalf of the Headteacher have a statutory power to discipline students for misbehaving away from the school premises.

The school reserves the right, therefore, to sanction a student for misbehaviour when:

- the student is taking part in any school related or organised activity
- the student is travelling to and from the school
- the student is wearing school uniform or can be identified as a student of the school
- misbehaviour that could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- misbehaviour poses a threat to other students or members of the public
- misbehaviour that adversely affects the reputation of the school
- misbehaviour that may take place online.

Students in Key Stage 3 and 4 are not allowed to leave the premises during the school day unless they have permission to do so. Students in the Sixth Form may leave the premises at lunch time providing they behave responsibly and sign out on departure and sign in on their return to school.

Confiscation Of and Search for Inappropriate Items

Under Section 90 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and Part 2 of the Education Act 2011, the school has the right to confiscate, retain or dispose of a student's property and protect the school from liability of damage. All procedures for searching, screening and confiscation will be fully compliant with the DfE guidance (Searching, Screening and Confiscation advice for schools 2022).

The school reserves the right to search without consent for prohibited items. These include: cigarettes, vapes, alcohol, illegal drugs, stolen items, weapons or any other item which the school considers to be harmful to a student or undermine the orderly running of the school. Sanctions will be imposed if a prohibited item is found, depending upon the decision of the Headteacher/ Deputy Headteacher. Refusal to comply with a search will be treated as a serious breach of this Policy.

Before screening or conducting a search of a student, the school will consider its obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights. Under Article 8, students have a right to respect for their private life. In this context, this means that students have the right to expect a reasonable level of personal privacy. The powers to search in the Education Act 1996 are compatible with Article 8. When exercising our powers lawfully, we should have no difficulty in demonstrating that we have acted in accordance with Article 8.

All searches will be conducted in the presence of two senior members of staff, one of whom will be the same sex as the student being searched. If possible, the witness will also be the same sex as the student. Where a student has

been searched, their parents/carers will be informed. Where a member of staff finds an item which is banned under the school rules, they should take into account all relevant circumstances and use their professional judgement to decide whether to return it to its owner, retain it or dispose of it and inform relevant agencies such as the police or social care.

The member of staff conducting the search will not require the student to remove any clothing other than outer clothing. Outer clothing means clothing that is not worn next to the skin or immediately over a garment that is being worn as underwear but does include hats; shoes; boots; gloves and scarves.

The member of staff conducting the search can use reasonable force when conducting a search for knives, weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, stolen items, cigarettes, vapes, fireworks, pornographic images or articles that have been used to commit an offence or cause harm. Reasonable force will not be used to search for items banned under school rules.

Where any weapon or illegal drug is found on a student and this compromises the safety of students and or staff, this may result in the Headteacher imposing a permanent exclusion and the police will be informed (in accordance with DfE guidelines).

New psychoactive substances are banned in school and will be treated as illegal drugs.

The school reserves the right to search for, and remove from students, the following: e-cigarettes and vaping paraphernalia, and any other items which they believe may be sold for financial gain.

A strip search is a search involving the removal of more than the outer clothing. Strip searches on school premises can and will only be carried out by police officers under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) Code A. In the unlikely event that a strip search is required, guidance from Sefton Council will be consulted before calling police into school. Parents and carers will be informed in advance.

Smoking / Vaping

Any student caught smoking / vaping on the site or with smoking / vaping related paraphernalia they will be issued with a sanction and parents will be informed. This includes smoking outside the school grounds, or on the way to and from school. Subsequent offences will result in more serious sanctions being issued.

Theft and Vandalism

Theft of school property or wilful destruction to school property will not be tolerated and consequences will be imposed depending on the seriousness of the incident based upon the judgement of the school.

Student Support

The school recognises its legal duty under the Equality Act 2010 to prevent students with a protected characteristic from being at a disadvantage. Therefore, our approach to challenging behaviour may be adapted to cater to the needs of the student as appropriate.

The school's SENDCO will assess and evaluate a student who exhibits challenging behaviour to determine whether they have any underlying needs that are not currently being met.

Where necessary, support and advice may also be sought from specialist teachers, an educational psychologist, medical practitioners and/or others, to identify or support specific needs.

When acute needs are identified in a student, we will liaise with external agencies and plan support programmes for that child. We will work with parents/guardians to create the plan that will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Positive Handling

DfE guidelines state that "All school staff members have a legal power to use reasonable force to prevent students committing a criminal offence, injuring themselves or others or damaging property and to maintain good order and discipline."

Teachers and support staff may use reasonable force in the aforementioned circumstances. The school does not require parental consent to use reasonable force. Further information is contained in the Positive Handling Policy.

Students with an Educational Health Care Plan

Students with an Educational Health Care Plan or with identified educational needs are expected to follow the school's Behaviour and Attitude policy and comply with all sanctions issued. Where behaviour places a student at risk of exclusion, all appropriate support agencies will be contacted and every reasonable step will be made to ensure the needs of the student are being supported and that 'reasonable adjustments' are set in place to support the student's needs. It may still, however, be appropriate to impose an exclusion following the implementation of reasonable adjustments.

Looked After Children

Looked After Children are expected to follow the school's Behaviour and Attitudes policy and comply with all sanctions issued. Where behaviour places a student at risk of exclusion, all appropriate support agencies will be contacted and every reasonable step will be made to ensure the needs of the student are being supported.

Loss of Personal Items on School Property

The school cannot take responsibility for any personal items lost within the grounds of the school property. This includes bicycles, electrical equipment, mobile phones, earpods, items of uniform (sporting and non-sporting) and money.

False Allegations against Members of Staff

Under the Education Act (2011), the school reserves the right to take disciplinary action against any student who, in the view of the Headteacher based on the evidence before them has made a serious, malicious allegation against a member of staff, which is unproven. This may result in exclusion from school.

Complaints

If a parent has a complaint about a disciplinary matter, they should follow the procedures laid down in the Trust's Complaints Policy.

Links with other policies

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policies:

- Anti-Bullying policy
- Rewards policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Complaints policy