



Statement of Behaviour Principles

This statement was written and approved by the Governing Body. It will be reviewed every 3 years in line with the school's positive Behaviour Policy.

Rationale and Purpose

1. This Statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006, and the Department for Education (DfE) guidance (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Guidance for governing bodies).
2. The purpose of this Statement is to provide guidance for the Headteacher in drawing up the school's Behaviour Policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of Governors, staff, parents and pupils of the school, as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters. It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of discipline and sanctions and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the governors' support when following this guidance.
3. This is a Statement of Principles, not practice: it is the responsibility of the Headteacher to draw up the school's Behaviour Policy, though these principles must be considered when formulating this. The Headteacher is also asked to take account of the guidance in the DfE publication Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Advice for Headteachers and school staff (January 2016).
4. The Behaviour Policy is publicised to staff and families on the school website.

Behaviour Principles

1. The Governors of Old Basing Infant School strongly believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school that enables (a) all pupils to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life and work and (b) all staff to teach and promote good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
2. All pupils and staff have the right to feel safe at all times in school. There should be mutual respect between staff and pupils and between pupils. All visitors to the school should feel safe and free from the effects of poor behaviour at all times and in all parts of the school.
3. Old Basing Infant School is an inclusive school. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort (as laid down in the Equality Act, 2010). The school has a clear and comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy that is known and understood by all and is consistently applied and monitored for its effectiveness. Measures to protect pupils from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation, religion, belief or background are clearly set out and regularly monitored.
4. The school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010, in respect of safeguarding pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities, and all vulnerable pupils, is set out in the SEND policy.
5. Parents/carers should be encouraged and helped to support their children's education, just as the pupils are helped to understand their responsibilities during their time at school, in the local community and in preparation for their life after school. The responsibilities of pupils, parents/carers and school staff with respect to pupils' behaviour are outlined in the 'Home School Agreement' which pupils and parents/carers are asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.

6. The school's expectations are clearly stated in the Behaviour Policy. This should set out expected standards of behaviour and be shared with and explained to all pupils. The Governors expect the rules to be consistently applied by all staff and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.

7. Pupils should be encouraged and supported to complete the work that is assigned to them. Staff are well-rehearsed at minimising disruption in school by rewarding positive behaviour in a consistent and timely manner before highlighting unacceptable behaviour. The Behaviour Policy sets out how positive behaviour is rewarded and encouraged.

8. Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and pupils and consistently applied. The full range of sanctions should be clearly described in the Behaviour Policy so that pupils, staff and parents can understand how and when these are applied. The Governors strongly feel that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must be used only as a very last resort. 'Unofficial' exclusions are illegal and are avoided. The Headteacher may inform the police, as appropriate, if there is evidence of a criminal act or a fear that one may take place.

9. Governors expect the Headteacher to draw on the advice contained within the DfE guidance document when dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and non-teaching staff (March 2012), when setting out the pastoral support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers. Staff so accused should not be automatically suspended pending an investigation.

10. The Governors expect the Headteacher to ensure that as part of the school's behaviour strategy, all staff are clear about the use of reasonable force within school, as set out in the DfE guidance document Use of Reasonable Force (July 2013 – Under consultation: Launched in Feb 2025). The school has a separate policy on the use of physical restraint in school.

Reviewed: Sept 2025

Next review date: September 2028