



## **The Stour Federation Governance Statement of Behaviour Principles**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act, 2006 and DfE guidance (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools guidance for governing bodies, 2015).

The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance for the Executive Headteacher and Head of School in drawing up each school's Positive Behaviour, Relationships and Well-being Policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of the Trust Board, Local Academy Councils, staff and parents/carers for the children in our schools, 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 support from Trust Board directors and local governors when following this guidance.

This is a statement of principles, not practice; it is the responsibility of each Head of School to draw up each school's Positive Behaviour, Relationships and Wellbeing Policy, though Heads of School should take account of these principles when formulating their school policy. The Executive Headteacher and Head of Schools are also asked to take account of the guidance in the DfE publication [Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: a guide for headteachers and staff.](#)

This statement was written and approved by each school's Local Academy Council and the Trust Board of Directors. It will be reviewed annually, cross-referenced with the Department for Education guidance and alongside each school in the Trust's Positive Behaviour, Relationships and Wellbeing Policy.

## **PRINCIPLES**

The Stour Federation Multi Academy Trust believes that:

1. High standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school. All schools in our Trust will work in partnership with children, parents and staff to maintain consistent and high standards of behaviour.
2. All children, staff and volunteers have the right to feel safe in school at all times.
3. All children have the right to be heard, to be valued, respected, and to learn free from the disruption of others.
4. All members of the school community will be respected and free from any form of discrimination.
5. An ethos of restorative practice will underpin the management of behaviour throughout the school and be consistently role-modelled by adults.
6. Exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, will only be used as a last resort.
7. Violence or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

## **POLICY**

The Stour Federation believes that each school in the Trust's Positive Behaviour, Relationships and Wellbeing Policy should:

- Clearly state the school's rules and expectations, which should be consistently applied and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.
- Emphasise the school's approach to restorative practice, positive relationships, and helping children take responsibility for their actions.
- Clearly state how the intended curriculum supports high standards of behaviour.
- Set out the rewards and incentives that the school uses to encourage positive behaviour in the classroom and elsewhere.
- Clarify the sanctions the school uses in the event of unacceptable behaviour and behaviour 'mistakes'.
- Clarify the circumstances for use of fixed term and permanent exclusions.
- Clarify the circumstances where reasonable force would be used and reasonable adjustments for disabled children and children with special educational needs.

- Clarify the expectations of working in partnership with parents/carers to manage behaviour.

All schools in The Stour Federation MAT are inclusive, and governance at Members, Trust Board and Local Academy Council level believe that all members of our school communities should be free from discrimination of any sort (as set out in the Equality Act 2010). To this end, The Stour Federation has a clear and comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy that is known and understood by all, where incidents are recorded when appropriate. Measures to protect children from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation or background are clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.

### **PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS**

Each school in The Stour Federation clarifies the responsibilities of children, parents/carers and all school staff with respect to children's behaviour on an annual basis as part of transition to a new classroom. The Positive Behaviour, Relationships and Wellbeing Policy for each school is available to parents/carers on each school's website. When deemed necessary, families are involved in behaviour conversations to foster positive relationships between the school and children's home life.

### **PASTORAL CARE FOR SCHOOL STAFF**

The Stour Federation Trust Board requires the Executive Headteacher to refer to ['Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and Other Staff'](#) guidance when providing pastoral support for school staff if they are accused of misusing their own powers.

### **MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW**

The Stour Federation Trust Board will review this statement on an annual basis alongside the annual review of the The Positive Behaviour, Relationships and Wellbeing Policy for each school and the Stour Federation Anti-bullying Policy.

Approved by Trusty Board: December 2021

Next review date: December 2022