

Behaviour Management Policy

Our Aim.

To provide a stimulating environment in which children develop self-discipline and self-esteem. We believe in working towards managing behaviour rather than the discipline of a child. To achieve our aim the Staff and Teachers at Hooke Court School will use this set of guidance notes to help manage positively the behaviour of children who attend the School.

Guidance Notes

- Clear, consistent boundaries are set regarding behaviour, taking into account the age and stage of development of the child.
- Children are made aware of the need for goals and boundaries and specific expectations for their behaviour in ways appropriate to their levels of understanding.
- Positive methods of guidance are used. We reward and praise good behaviour and encourage respect for others - House Points and Fancy Frog Award.
- We encourage responsibility such as helping to tidy up, take responsibility at the dining table and ensure doors are locked at the end of play times - all dependent upon the age of the children. Each class also has its own set of rules and responsibilities.
- Adults intervene and redirect, if necessary, to prevent disagreements developing that children cannot handle.
- Avoid practices which humiliate or frighten children.
- Ensure physical punishment is not resorted to and where restraint is unavoidable, the minimum amount is used consistent with maintaining the safety of the child and others. It should only be used as an emergency reactive strategy. For further guidance please refer to the following:

Physical Intervention Policy

'Guidance for Schools use of Physical or Restrictive Intervention in the Management of Challenging Behaviour for Pupils with Complex Needs'

DCSF 'Use of force to control or restrain pupils' November 2007

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/doc/12187/ACFD89B.pdf> (covers use of Physical Intervention across all situations)

- Any incidents of unwanted behaviour are handled in a calm and controlled manner

- Persistent problems with unwanted behaviour are promptly and accurately recorded, then reported to parents/carers, colleagues or professionals, as appropriate, and advice sought. In extreme cases, children may be excluded.
- It is always made clear that it is the behaviour, not the child that is unwelcome.

Training and support in behaviour management is available to staff.

We believe in:

- Praising and rewarding positive behaviour through house points which can be gained for good behaviour, good effort etc and the Fancy Frog which can be earned for anything a child has particularly strived to achieve throughout a week.
- Providing a good role model prompting acceptable behaviour
- Discussing issues with other children
- Giving children the language with which to express themselves
- Providing a stimulating and developmentally appropriate curriculum
- Providing equipment and materials through which children can play out their feelings or the opportunity to express their feelings and tolerate others' views.
- Giving attention on a one to one basis

Behaviour Management Strategies

Supervisory staff must remain alert to children's behaviour even in a small school like ours. Action must be swift and assertive to prevent a deterioration of a situation where punishment may be necessary. Most discipline and behaviour problems can and should be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who was involved or witnessed the events. If the behaviour is persistently repeated, or it is felt serious enough, then it should be discussed with the child's Class Teacher, and/or the Head teacher. The Class Teacher should then discuss with the child the behaviour in question. At this stage a decision regarding punishment should be considered.

If the behaviour persists or is sufficiently serious then the Head teacher or deputy head teacher will interview the child. The next stage is for the HT, Deputy Head Teacher and possibly the Class Teacher to hold informal discussions with the parents. It may be that close liaison between school and the parents is felt necessary, and that at this meeting a method is agreed by all parties for this to occur. All discussions, conclusions and courses of action should be documented.

In extreme cases and at the discretion of the HT a child may be excluded from School. The duration of exclusion is at the discretion of the HT, but with full consultation with the parents. The reasons for, and length of exclusion, will be carefully explained to the parents.

Exclusion may also be used where the School lacks the resources or staff to deal with a particular child. In this case discussions will be held jointly between the HT and the parents before such a decision is made.

Staff Meetings are used for staff to raise any concerns with inappropriate behaviour. IEPs for behaviour are drawn up if necessary.

Drugs and alcohol are strictly forbidden within Hooke Court grounds by any staff or child. Any suspicion whatsoever of any infringement must be reported immediately to the most senior member of staff present. A full investigation will be carried out, including a meeting with the parents. Where necessary police will also be consulted. Any pupil found guilty of committing any offence involving any of the above substances will be expelled immediately.

Playground behaviour

Children will be encouraged to cooperate and play constructively together. Hooke Court has a wide variety of areas available for break and lunchtimes and these should be used as appropriate. Equipment is available for playtimes if the children wish. Staff may wish to initiate a game of football or skipping competition or other similar games.

A designated member of staff is always on duty at play time, plus others as deemed necessary. Any bad behaviour in the playground should initially be dealt with with a verbal reprimand; if unsuccessful the child could be isolated for a brief period of time and in the final instance has to be sent to the Head Teacher, or remain by the member of staff on duty for the duration of the break.

Wet Play

Children are to stay in their own classroom and are encouraged to play with a range of games, jigsaw, lego etc. Alternatively they may sketch, read or play quiet games together. There must be a member of staff in each classroom during the break.

Circle Time

This provides a time for focussing on their own feelings, those of others as well as tolerating others' views.

Punishments available to School Staff.

1. Reprimand at the time of offence.
2. Detention. This can only occur at break or lunchtime due to the rural nature of the school. Each Class Teacher must make their own arrangements for detention, given that the child must be supervised at all times. Constructive work should be provided rather than repetitive punishments, e.g. lines.
3. Confiscation of personal items. Should the Class Teacher or any member of staff deem it necessary to confiscate any personal items from a child then they must be responsible for its safe keeping and return to the child or to the parent at the end of the day.
4. Exclusion. This option is at the discretion of the HT who will decide the period of exclusion, or permanently.