



Behaviour Policy St Mary's and Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academies

Our Vision

"Many Hearts, One Accord"

"Do whatever He tells you"



*We are the many hearts that follow Jesus, the one accord.
"Through the strength of God's love and the power
of prayer
we are guided to do whatever He tells us. Many
hearts,
one accord, growing and learning together for life to
build the kingdom of God."
(School Mission Statement)*

In accordance with our Mission statement, at St. Mary and Our Lady of Grace we strive to secure a shared vision for all associated with our school community. Fundamentally, we aim:

'To provide a nurturing environment which seeks to promote the development of self-respect and respect for others.'

In order to achieve this successfully, we are firmly committed to the following objectives:

- To promote the Gospel values of love, understanding, tolerance, justice and peace, in order to foster positive relationships within our school community.
- To maintain a safe, harmonious environment, which nurtures individuals by responding promptly to their needs, through active listening, keen observations and sincere interest and concern for all children.
- To encourage self-awareness, openness and respect in the way we communicate and respond to others;
- To establish an agreed code of behaviour, supported by clear and purposeful rules, rewards and sanctions, which are applied consistently by all.
- To value and celebrate the effort and attainment of every individual whilst acknowledging diversity in relation to both academic and non-academic achievements.
- To promote a learning culture in which children are encouraged to take some responsibility for learning.
- To develop effective communication between parents/ carers, pupils and staff in dealing with disruptive behaviour in school.
- To enable pupils to recognise and value their contribution and responsibilities, both within their school environment and wider community.

At St. Mary and Our Lady of Grace the expectation of high standards of behaviour for all pupils is fundamental to securing these objectives.

Within our school and wider community, all pupils and adults are encouraged to demonstrate courtesy, manners and respect for everyone. This framework of positive behaviour is based on the following principles:

Respect for God

Respect for others
Respect for other people's property and belongings
Respect for oneself.

Rules, Expectations and Standards

Within the above framework, a set of clear rules and expectations have been negotiated with the school committee, staff, pupils and parents in order to establish an agreed code of behaviour in school. Children negotiate and agree expectations for behaviour in class at the beginning of each academic year. Similarly, an agreed code of behaviour in the dining hall has been established with midday supervisors and **all** pupils. The following list contains some examples of school rules and guidelines for children:

Always give your best in school.

Wear correct uniform – be smart and tidy.

Show respect when talking and praying to God.

Speak quietly and politely, using good manners at all times.

Offer to help others, where possible.

Walk at all times, when inside the school building and off-site.

Uniform

The wearing of correct school uniform is considered to be an important part in establishing a sense of community and standards in school. Children are encouraged to take pride in wearing appropriate uniform, including PE kit.

Hair should be conventionally cut with no visible lines and should be an appropriate length (not shaven or less than grade 2) Shoulder length hair should be tied back at all times using a bow or bobble in the school colours (navy blue and white). Highlights/Lowlights, bleaching or colouring of any kind are not permitted. Small bows or hair bands may be worn but these must be in the school colours (blue and white). See **Appendix 2** for a full list of uniform expectations.

Roles and Responsibilities

It remains the overall responsibility of the Principal and Head of School to ensure that high standards of discipline are maintained on a daily basis. However, at St. Mary's and Our Lady of Grace **we acknowledge the responsibility of every person - adult and child - in promoting and maintaining high standards of behaviour at all times.**

A 'Code of Conduct for Adults in School' has been shared and agreed by all involved in working within our school community. (See **appendix 1**).

Emphasis is placed on the production of good work, effort, honesty, helpfulness, success, courage and other positive personal qualities. Children are strongly encouraged to take pride in the wearing of correct uniform, including PE kit. The role of every adult in our school is to take an active role in maintaining high standards of behaviour, highlighting the positive aspects of individual and group behaviour, whilst dealing promptly and appropriately with unacceptable attitudes or misconduct.

Pupils are acknowledged to have an important role in contributing to all aspects of school life. Pupils in Year 6 are allocated duties and responsibilities, including assisting staff in the supervision of younger pupils. The roles of our head boy and head girl, supported by deputies and monitors, are considered reflective of the positive attitudes and standards to which all pupils should aspire.

School Council

The head boy, head girl and two representatives from each class in Years 2 - 6 meet fortnightly with the Assistant Principal, PHSE leader and/or safeguarding officer, to discuss any issues relating to school life. Minutes of the meetings are recorded and forwarded to the Principal for future reference at staff meetings, where appropriate. Representatives from the school council are expected to provide prompt feedback to their peer group. The involvement of the school council in selecting appropriate equipment for the playground has proved to be particularly successful and we look forward to many more positive ideas from our children.

Current Practice and Procedures

Rewarding Achievements and Behaviour

The following methods will be used by adults to reward positive behaviour, good work or demonstration of personal values mentioned previously:

- Positive acknowledgement or comments to individuals or groups.
- Visual prompts within classrooms to highlight individuals for good behaviour, eg. badges, stickers.
- The use of stickers or team house points on class charts. (for good work)
- Special person/helper of the day award.
- Children are awarded achievement points for good behaviour. These are placed and communicated to parents via the school 'gateway app' and once a child has reached a milestone (as outlined in Appendix 3) they will receive their appropriate reward.
- A member of SMT will complete a ½ termly analysis of pupil point rewarded within each class.
- Public acknowledgement of progress in weekly 'Celebrations' assembly.
- Headteacher's award - for one pupil in every class. A text will be sent to parents to let them know their child will be receiving an award.

- Pupils are awarded 'Top table' gold cards which are distributed by midday supervisors. These children are given certificates in the celebration assembly.
- Letters to parents of pupils commended for effort, progress or attainment. (termly).
- Attendance awards, including a trophy presented weekly for the class with best overall attendance.
- Stickers for attendance, awarded on a termly basis and gold, silver and bronze certificates awarded on an annual basis
- Class awards are distributed at the annual prize-giving ceremony, for outstanding attainment, progress, effort, care and overall class prize in every year group.
- The presentation of subject prizes for exceptional achievement in core subjects and arts, to pupils in Year 6.
- A variety of individual trophies presented to individuals who have demonstrated generosity of spirit and contributed overall to most aspects of school life during their time at St Mary's.

A celebration assembly for whole school, key stage or class is held every week, in celebration of our pupils' successes and achievements, within and beyond the school day.

A variety of awards are presented for a range of successes and achievements, including those listed above. In Key stage one and two a housepoint shield is awarded to the team collecting the highest number of housepoints that week. House captains collect and place the shield on the star board, on behalf of their team. Every Friday a 'top table' is laid with flowers and napkins and children who have received the gold cards are invited to share a meal with their chosen friend as a reward for consistently good behaviour in the dining hall throughout the week.

Social and Emotional Learning

Our academies have employed the principles and strategies of Social and Emotional Learning.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) interventions seek to improve pupils' decision-making skills, interaction with others and their self-management of emotions, rather than focusing directly on the academic or cognitive elements of learning (EEF)

Three broad categories of SEL interventions can be identified:

- School-level approaches to developing a positive school ethos, which also aim to support greater engagement in learning;
- Universal programmes which generally take place in the classroom with the whole class; and
- More specialised programmes which use elements of SEL and are targeted at students with particular social or emotional needs.

Through the teaching and learning of 'The Jigsaw Approach to PSHE' we feel that the children at St Mary's and Our Lady of Grace will have opportunities to develop their self-feelings, thoughts and ideas using a range of concepts that will allow to build on their social skills, emotional skills in a mindfulness and spiritual way. We inspire the children to ask questions about themselves and the world around them; and endeavour to give children the life skills that they need to continue on in life after education.

Sanctions for Inappropriate Behaviour

The right of every child to fully access a broad, balanced curriculum through quality learning and teaching experiences is fundamental in ensuring the highest standards of behaviour are maintained within every classroom. Procedures for minimising disruptive behaviour include the planning and delivery of high quality learning experiences, matched to individual needs and abilities, in order to sustain and motivate pupils to learn and achieve. Staff are entrusted to manage inappropriate behaviour promptly and effectively, in accordance with school policy. Should a child exhibiting low-level inappropriate behaviour (e.g. not conforming, disrupting other children, stopping others from working etc) the following will occur.

1. The child will receive a prompt to follow a specific rule from the relevant member of staff.
2. If a pupil continues then a further warning will be issued, with a clear and firm explanation of the consequences.
3. If the child continues to misbehave then he/she will be referred to the key stage manager. This may result in a child being asked to carry out tasks during break-time or, in more serious instances, a referral to the Behaviour Lead or Head of School. In all instances the child's name will be recorded in the 'Behaviour Log Book.' Held by each key stage manager and Behaviour Leads of the school.
4. Children will complete a Behaviour Incident Form providing details about the incident and what they will do in the future that will be different.
5. If a child's name is recorded in the Behaviour Log Book on three separate occasions, parents will be contacted to discuss the matter with the key stage leader, Head of School or Behaviour Lead.
6. Each half term a behaviour analysis will be completed and shared with SLT. This will allow staff to monitor behaviour of individual or groups of children and to provide further support where necessary, for example, referral for learning mentor support, emotional literacy support, etc.

'Time Out'

Children behaving inappropriately may require a short period of time to calm down, or consider their actions. **It is crucial that the use of 'time out,' from either lessons or playtimes, is constructive,** that children fully understand the reason for the seclusion and are encouraged to reflect and take responsibility for their actions.

In more serious instances, it may be necessary for a child to miss break-time periods. During these times, children should be given specific tasks around

school, or in cases involving disruption in class, they may be required to complete work from lessons. Children should not be instructed to stand in corridors at any time unless supervised by the Principal or Head of School. During outdoor breaks or lessons, 'time out' periods should not be excessive. Staff should take account of the circumstances surrounding the incident, and consider the age and needs of the child before deciding on an appropriate 'time out' period; **on no account should this extend beyond ten minutes of each session.**

On occasions, it may be necessary for some children to be supervised by an experienced adult during 'time out' sessions. These children may already be attending mentoring sessions, have difficulties with controlling their own behaviour, or have an emotional behavioural difficulty which requires adult support.

During these instances, the school Learning Mentor may be deployed to supervise a child, under the direction of the Principal or senior staff.

Exclusions

In cases involving inappropriate behaviour during break-times on a regular basis, parents may be asked to remove children from the school premises during lunch break periods for a fixed period.

Any incidents involving violence, racism or bullying will not be tolerated and will be dealt with seriously. This may result in children being excluded from school for a fixed period.

It may be necessary to exclude a child from lessons for persistent disruption or misbehaviour. On such occasions the child will be given appropriate work and sent to the key stage manager, in another classroom. It may be necessary to refer children to the Head of School or Assistant Principal. Under no circumstances should children be made to stand outside classrooms, or in corridors without supervision.

On occasions, the Principal may decide to send the pupil to another school where a member of staff would accompany them for a fixed period.

Fixed-term and permanent exclusions are carried out for serious misconduct in school. It remains school policy to make every effort to work closely with pupils and parents to address any difficulties and provide appropriate guidance and support. Permanent exclusion is considered as a last resort.

On rare occasions where it is deemed necessary to exclude a child, parents will be informed immediately, both verbally and in writing. The school will provide set work to be completed by the pupil during the period of exclusion. It is expected that parents will support the school by ensuring tasks are completed. Every effort will be made to support and communicate regularly with parents. The Principal or Head of School will promptly complete the formal documentation and forward this to the local authority.

Racism

It remains the responsibility of the Principal to provide an annual report to directors of all racist incidents in school. It is a requirement that **all** racist incidents, involving adults or children, occurring in school are officially reported to the LA. St. Mary's and Our Lady of Grace takes the clear view that racism in any form will not be tolerated. Incidents of racism will be dealt with in a stern manner and investigations will take place as to why the child is behaving in this manner. In all cases of racism the Head of School or Principal informs parents from both perpetrator and victim.

Special Educational Needs and Individual Behaviour Plans

Some children may experience difficulties with behaviour for a variety of reasons, including social and emotional, which may affect their ability to access the curriculum and impede their learning. It may be necessary to plan appropriate strategies to support learning and development through the production of a pupil passport with a focus on behaviour. In these cases, children will be identified and placed on the school's special needs register. In some cases, should the strategies prove inadequate, it may be necessary for the school to apply for an Education and Health Care plan (EHCP). In all circumstances, parents will be fully consulted and informed of procedures and outcomes. Harassment of pupils with a disability will not be tolerated.

Arrival and Departure from School

Pupils entering or leaving the school premises should behave in an appropriate manner. Whilst it remains the overall responsibility of parents to supervise their children before and after school, children are expected to continue to observe the school rules and dress code/ at all times whilst on the premises. Children may leave the school in PE kits if they have stopped for an after school activity requiring them to wear them. Pupils are expected to follow the school rules whenever they wear the school uniform for example walking home from school.

Lunch-time Procedures

Children in the Foundation Stage will be supported to go to the toilet and wash their hands in preparation for lunch. Lunch times within the Foundation Stage is an integral part of their learning day where children will be learning and developing skills such as independence, choosing what they would like to eat and drink; social skills, eating appropriately with others; and physical skills, using a knife and fork. Once children have finished eating they will be encouraged to go to the toilet and wash their hands before choosing a play based learning activity supported by the Foundation Stage Staff.

Key Stage 1 are taken to the toilet and wash hands in preparation for lunch. After lunch children are supervised outdoors by midday supervisors and should not re-enter the school buildings without permission.

Pupils in Key Stage 1 are escorted into the building, to use the toilets and prepare for afternoon lessons, under the guidance of midday supervisors.

Key Stage 2 pupils are expected to stop when the lunchtime staff ask. Children will walk directly and sensibly into class, following instruction by the members of staff on duty.

Children are encouraged to demonstrate manners and courtesy in the dining hall. Children are expected to remain seated whilst eating and speak quietly at the table. Older pupils are encouraged to model good behaviour and are involved in supporting younger children during lunch-times.

Playground Equipment, Games and Activities

Outdoor playtimes provide invaluable opportunities for pupils to extend social and physical skills and abilities beyond the parameters of the classroom. Without appropriate supervision, planning and guidance, we recognise the potential for adverse effects upon pupils' behaviour. High profile is given to the role of midday supervisors during lunchtimes and staff have agreed an agreed code of behaviour. Children receive achievement points for good behaviour. Incidents of inappropriate behaviour should not be seen as acceptable at any time and should be dealt with appropriately by staff. If in any doubt, incidents should be reported to the class teacher.

Incidents of violence or bullying are not tolerated in school and should be reported immediately to the Heads of school and/or the Behaviour Lead.

During playtimes and lunch-breaks, children are given access to a range of playground equipment for which they are responsible to collect and store away. All pupils are expected to show appropriate care and respect for school property and equipment. The appropriate members of staff on duty will deal with any instances of inappropriate use of equipment immediately. Under the leadership of the PE leader, playground leaders have been trained to organise games and activities. Midday supervisors are also encouraged to seek opportunities to develop pupils' social skills through participation in activities, supporting and teaching pupils, as required.

Procedures for Wet Playtimes

During wet playtimes, children are expected to remain in their classrooms under the supervision of the duty staff. Pupils in Nursery and Reception will remain under the supervision of staff in the Foundation Stage. Year 6 pupils will assist in the supervision of younger pupils.

Every classroom should contain a wet –playtime box, which should be used solely during wet break-time and lunchtime periods. This should contain a range of suitable games and activities to occupy children during these times. The boxes should be clearly labelled and accessible to children.

Code of Conduct for Adults in School

In accordance with our School Mission Statement and Catholic ethos, interaction between all adults, including parents, parent-helpers and school staff, is based on mutual respect, as stipulated in our 'Code of Conduct for Adults in School.'

Verbal or physical abuse towards staff is not tolerated at any time, (see Appendix 1).

Parent-Helpers

St. Mary's and Our Lady of Grace welcomes and values assistance from parents in classrooms. As part of our safeguarding children procedures, all adult helpers working regularly in school complete DBS checks. Prior to working in classrooms, adult helpers meet with a member of the school's Senior Management Team to clarify any concerns and sign confidentiality agreements.

Communication with Parents

We recognise the value in developing effective systems of communication with parents. In order to preserve a happy, secure environment for our children, we strive to maintain high standards of behaviour at all times. We believe the involvement and cooperation of parents in supporting our school behaviour policy is essential for its success. The School Gateway app will be used to communicate achievement points given and the reasons that the child achieved them. Whilst the school operates an 'open door' policy whereby parents are encouraged to raise any concerns with the relevant member of staff or Principal, it may not always be appropriate to address concerns immediately, eg. in front of pupils or parents, or in class.

On such occasions, parents will be requested to make an appointment to discuss any issues and can be assured that all concerns will be addressed promptly.

This policy was agreed by staff on September 2022

This policy was approved by School Committee on November 2022

This policy will be reviewed by the School Committee on September 2023

Signed _____ Chair of School Committee

Appendix 1 Code of Conduct for Adults in School

As a Catholic Academy, we recognise and value each individual, made in the likeness of God and should strive to apply the Gospel values of respect, justice and tolerance in our daily interaction with children and colleagues.

In order to achieve this we have negotiated and established a list of criteria, which guide us in our daily mission in contributing to a happy and successful learning community.

- **Be a positive role model for children, colleagues and parents.**
- Listen to and value each individual.
- Acknowledge the feelings and anxieties of others.
- Listen and respect the opinions of others during meetings and discussions.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times, including out of school hours.
- Never enter into discussion about individual children in public. Observe school protocol and refer any concerns to the appropriate member of staff.
- Avoid public displays of negative attitudes or behaviour, particularly in front of children.
- Praise and encourage children for their behaviour, efforts and achievements.
- Discussions about school matters should be conducted appropriately, in private, never in front of children or other adults.
- The school operates a 'whistle-blowing' policy to ensure consistency of practice in behaviour management and safeguarding all pupils, and preserving the positive well-being of staff.
- **Respect the right of every child to privacy.**
- Avoid discussion of individual children within the Staff room.
- **Never** discuss individual or groups of children in view or hearing of other pupils or adults. Show discretion and sensitivity.
- It is school policy that any incidents involving children or members of staff are dealt with by colleagues.

Communication with Parents

Parents can be assured that school staff will listen courteously, investigate and address any issues promptly, or refer the matter to the Principal.

In discussing issues or concerns with staff in school, it is expected that parents are in agreement with the school ethos of respecting the dignity of other adults and children. **The school operates zero tolerance regarding any form of negative behaviour towards school staff, other adults or children either in public or in the use of Social Media.** Serious matters involving confrontation, slander, threatening behaviour or intimidation towards others on the school premises may result in the involvement of the school committee or Directors, who reserve the right to ban those responsible from the school premises.

In accordance with recommended guidelines, all incidents involving threatening behaviour or aggression towards members of staff are formally recorded and forwarded to the Directors and Chair of School Committee.

Appendix 2

Uniform policy

All pupils are expected to wear the correct school uniform at all times. It is the policy of the School Committee's policy that all children wear the uniform, which is as follows:-

Boys

Navy sweater – with school logo White school shirt (not fashion shirt) School tie Dark grey trousers Grey or black socks and black shoes

Girls

Navy cardigan – with school logo White school shirt (not fashion shirt) School tie Dark grey skirt or pinafore that must be to knee length or below White or grey socks or grey tights and black shoes

Summer Term only Girls may wear the navy blue and white checked summer dress.

Boys may wear grey shorts

All pupils may wear black or navy summer sandals.

P.E. Kit

White T shirt – with/without school logo Navy cotton shorts Navy sweatshirt – with school logo Navy jogging bottoms (winter) Black plimsolls

All items of clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.

In the interests of Health and Safety, jewellery must not be worn. This includes earrings which are not permitted even if covered with a plaster.

****PLEASE NOTE**** Jewellery, make up and nail varnish are not allowed.

Hair should be conventionally cut with no visible lines and should be an appropriate length (not shaven or less than grade 2) Shoulder length hair should be tied back at all times using a bow or bobble in the school colours (navy blue and white). Highlights/Lowlights, bleaching or colouring of any kind are not permitted. Small bows or hair bands may be worn but these must be in the school colours (blue and white).

Appendix 3

Achievement point milestones (to be decided by the school council)

All rewards will be accompanied by a certificate

Milestone	Reward
25 points	pen/pencil
50 points	Felt pens or Gel pens
100 points	Football or a skipping rope
150 points	Mini Board game/Card game
200 points	£5 amazon voucher
250 points	Afternoon Tea with Mrs Rathbone 1 entry into a prize draw for a scooter