

Behaviour Policy

Rossall School recognises that effective teaching and learning can only take place in a caring, well-ordered environment. At Rossall our behaviour policy is applied fairly and consistently, without regard to race, gender or seniority. Good discipline is important for the growth, welfare and development of our pupils. In this regard our pupils are given clear expectations, effective pastoral support and opportunities to build good social relationships. High standards of behaviour, manners and discipline are expected of all pupils at all times. Pupils are expected to behave in such a way as to be a credit to themselves and to the School.

Rossall bases its code of behaviour on four general principles:

- We believe in giving our best effort in all things, at all times and fulfilling our commitments
- We believe in trying to be a positive influence in what we do, and encouraging others to do the same
- We believe in being courteous, considerate and respectful to others
- We believe in taking pride in ourselves, in our ideals and our environment

Particular attention is drawn to the following points:

- All conduct that is anti-social or tends to bring discredit to the School, whether on the premises or elsewhere is deemed a breach of School Rules.
- Bullying is not acceptable in any form and pupils are expected to have read the school's anti-bullying policy and must embrace it.
- Rossall encourages all of its pupils to show respect for each other. Disruption in lessons, public displays of intimacy, sexual activity on the school premises, fighting, vandalism, theft and bullying are not acceptable and will be dealt with firmly.
- Rossall strongly disapproves of the abuse of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. The school will act accordingly and pupils should expect to be dealt with in accordance with the school rules.
- Pupils are expected to relate well and to behave considerately towards others. We live in a society where social skills are vital to our well being, and learning to interact with others is therefore a critical part of education.
- All pupils are expected to know and display basic 'good manners', particularly in the presence of adults and in the classroom situation. Staff will make clear their expectations in this respect.
- The use of mobile phones during lessons is prohibited. School staff can confiscate a mobile phone as a disciplinary penalty when they are being used to cause a disturbance or otherwise contravene the school behaviour policy, and have a legal defence in respect of this in the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (section 94).

- We will impose a range of sanctions on any pupil who misuses technology to bully, harass or abuse another pupil in line with our anti-bullying policy.
- All pupils should be aware that the School expects high standards of appearance at all times. Pupils must travel to and from School in uniform unless they have permission to wear alternative clothing.
- The specific rules of the school are dictated by common sense and are published in the School Calendar. In addition, we have well-defined policies directed towards particular areas of behaviour.

These points are supported by a system of rewards and, where necessary, appropriate sanctions. Sanctions will be at a level that reflects the severity of the offence, the possible influence on others and the maturity of the pupil. All pupils are issued with copies of the School Rules, both in their Calendar and in the School Handbook.

Roles and Responsibilities

Council: has a policy for promoting good behaviour, to review the policy and support the school in maintaining standards ensuring an orderly safe environment for Pupils and staff.

Headmaster: is responsible for the day to day management and implementation of the policy and procedures and supporting staff in ensuring positive behaviour.

Common Room, including teachers and support staff: will be responsible for ensuring the policy and procedures are followed and consistently and fairly applied to all pupils. The behaviour policy also applies to staff.

Parents: are expected to take responsibility for the behaviour of their child. They will be encouraged to work in partnership with the school and will have the opportunity to raise any issues with the school.

Pupils: will be expected to take responsibility for their own behaviour and to report any breaches of this policy.

Procedures

Discipline in the classroom is the responsibility of the classroom teacher. There are systems of reward, sanction and support in Departments and whole school Pastoral policies.

Rewards

An ethos of praise and encouragement is central to the promotion of good behaviour. Rewards motivate pupils to realise that good behaviour is valued. A range of rewards both formal and informal value achievement and positive behaviour. Whenever possible pupils are encouraged and rewarded. Pupils thrive on praise and this is recognised through our reward system which offers the opportunity to reward pupils for exceptional work, progress or

behaviour, making a contribution to the community and participating in extra-curricular activities

Sanctions

Responsible behaviour is the expectation, norm and is encouraged at all times in and outside the classroom. Pupils who display behaviour which break the rules are dealt with firmly and fairly. A variety of sanctions are available to be used as and when it is considered appropriate. These include measures designed to ensure that the student makes some form of reparation for his or her misbehaviour and take into account frequency/regularity of such behaviour. Persistent misbehaviour and disruption will lead to contact with parents to discuss the issues and explore solutions. At Rossall behavioural sanctions are applied with reference to a detailed schedule to ensure consistency. Year Heads and Houseparents are part of this process and deal with minor offences. All serious incidents are brought to the attention of the Deputy Head or the Head of the Junior Schools who will inform the Headmaster.

Suspension and Exclusion are only used for serious offences and normally when all other school sanctions have been applied. Serious incidents are recorded in the serious incident book and records are kept of all other disciplinary issues.

In brief rewards and sanctions include the following:

Rewards	Sanctions
Verbal and written praise	Quiet counselling
Merits (Excellents)	Reprimand
Commendations	Carrying out a useful task in the school
High Grades on Grade Cards and Reports	Completion of assigned work or additional written work
Certificates	Removal of pupil from lesson
Positive comments on triplicate form	Detain at the end of the lesson
Awards i.e. School and House Colours	Withholding privileges such as participation in school trips or events where these do not form an essential part of the curriculum
Participation in Special Events	Interruption of break or lunchtime privileges
Posts of responsibility	Detention

Prize Day awards

Referral by triplicate form

Letter home

Senior Staff called to deal with issue

Placing on behaviour report

Gating for boarders

Boarding House structure

- Boarding houses are small and Houseparents know their charges very well
- Older pupils act as role models for younger pupils
- The responsibilities of senior pupils are properly limited and explained.
- House and School monitors receive training and meet regularly throughout the year to help them to manage younger pupils with sensitivity and understanding
- Staff are actively involved with pupils in all areas of the House when they are on duty
- Tutor team meetings allow staff time to discuss concerns
- Good behaviour and discipline is maintained

Suspension

Serious misbehaviour will, in most cases, lead to suspension from school. Examples of such behaviour include:

- Any form of bullying
- Racial or sexual abuse or any form of harassment
- Intolerance of disability
- Aggressive behaviour, swearing or making threats
- Misuse of IT equipment including the Internet
- Failure to tell the truth
- Defiance
- Theft
- Behaviour which endangers people or property
- The carrying of weapons
- The possession or use of drugs, including alcohol or cigarettes
- Damage
- Disruption to the education of others
- Persistent failure to abide by school uniform expectations
- Bringing the school into disrepute, including during visits, lunchtimes and travel to or from school.
- Presenting a significant risk to the health and safety of other pupils

Repeated and/or more serious misbehaviours could lead to permanent exclusion.

Only the head of Junior Schools, the Deputy Head and the Headmaster can suspend a pupil from the school.

Before the decision is made to suspend a pupil, the incident will be investigated; pupils will be interviewed and will make statements in writing. Where appropriate, witnesses will also be interviewed and will provide statements. Staff or other adults involved will provide referrals or statements as appropriate. Pupils are likely to be removed from class at these times and might be required to work in the Head of Junior Schools or Deputy Head's study.

In the event of denial or difference of opinion, the Headteacher will make a decision based on reasonableness and the weight of evidence.

Once the decision has been made to suspend, the pupil and parents or guardian will be informed as soon as possible. If practicable, the parent or guardian will be asked to collect the pupil from School at the earliest opportunity.

Exclusion

We seek to use all possible strategies before resorting to exclusion. The School is responsible for promoting good behaviour and discipline on the part of its pupils and for securing an orderly and safe learning environment. Serious breaches of discipline will be dealt with through suspension. If problems persist, or if severe one-off instances occur, it might be judged necessary to expel. Behaviours, which might result in exclusion, include severe or persistent instances as detailed under **Suspension**.

Physical restraint

In extreme cases, which are rare but do occur, a member of staff might have to physically restrain a student. If this happens it is brought to the Headmasters attention immediately.

Search

Under Section 395) of the Children Act 1989

'A person who...does not have parental responsibility...but has care of the child, may...do what is reasonable in all the circumstances of a case for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare.'

The school considers that a search of personal property falls into the category of search for the purpose of 'safekeeping or promoting a child's welfare'. A search of a pupil's electronic property as stored on the School network may also fall into this category. Searches will always be carried out in a proper manner which respects the pupil's dignity at all times. The adult carrying out the search will be accompanied by another adult and the pupil will be invited to be present throughout.

Early Intervention

Early intervention may prevent minor behavioural difficulties from escalating. Early contact with parents is crucial and will normally be the responsibility of the class teacher in conjunction with the Head of Department, or the tutor in conjunction with the Year Head or Houseparent, or by the Deputy Head or Head of Junior Schools where the need arises. Pupils may receive counselling.

Involving Outside Agencies

The school works positively with external agencies, seeking appropriate support for pupils with particular needs. Pupils are referred to such agencies with the knowledge and permission of their parents.

Pupils Involvement

The school has established mechanisms through the Monitors, who meet with the Deputy Head on a weekly basis, and the Student and Boarding Council for Pupils to consider behavioural policy.

Related policies

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Pupil Sanctions Record
- Complaints Procedure
- Schools Rules and Regulations
- Alcohol, Smoking and Drug Abuse Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Admissions & Attendance Register
- Disability Policy
- Framework for Assessment & Evaluation of Pupil Performance
- Pupil Sanctions Record
- SEN & Learning Difficulties Policy
- E-Safety Policy

The behaviour policy is communicated to staff, parents and pupils through:

The Common Room Handbook and Boarding Manual

INSET

School Handbook

Letters to parents

Year Pastoral Evenings

Assemblies

School Calendar

The School website

The School Rules

Training

The school will provide information and training, as appropriate, on behaviour management to all staff through induction training for new staff, Inset for ongoing professional development and to meet specific training needs.

Monitoring and Review

The school maintains records of behavioural incidents. The school evaluates its policy in terms of individual measures, the improvement of individual behaviour and academic progress or Department measures, or whole-school pastoral measures every 2 years.

Complaints procedure

If you are not happy with the way that you or your child is treated by any member of the staff or other parent at the school you should follow the complaints procedure.

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