



## The Forest C E Federation

### Governors' Statement of Behaviour Principles

#### Introduction

Our school is committed to providing an environment where all members of the school community can feel safe, happy, accepted and included at all times. We respect and value all children and believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and secure environment. We hold an important place in educating the young people of tomorrow so that they can take a positive and pro-active role within their community now and in the future.

#### Principles

**Right to feel safe at all times:** All pupils, staff, parents and visitors have the right to feel safe at all times whilst in school and should always have mutual respect for one another. All members of the school community must be aware that bullying, harassment or discrimination of any description is unacceptable and, even if it occurs outside of school hours or away from the school premises, will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to our Behaviour Policy.

**High Standards of Behaviour:** The Governors strongly believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school. They believe that good teaching and learning promotes good behaviour and good behaviour promotes effective learning. Children have the right to learn and to achieve their potential in all aspects of their lives and staff have the right to teach. The Governors also believe that the expectation of high standards of behaviour which are required during the school day can have a positive effect on the life of young people outside school in encouraging them to become successful citizens.

**Inclusivity and Equality:** We are an inclusive federation, we believe in equality and in valuing the individual. We believe all members of the school community should be free from discrimination, harassment and bullying and will not tolerate them in any form. The school's legal duty in order to comply with the Equality Act 2010 and which are described in the School's Equality Policy will be further reinforced through the Policy on Behaviour and Discipline and seek to safeguard vulnerable pupils. We recognise some pupils may need additional support to meet behaviour expectations.

**School Rules:** School rules will be detailed in our Policy on Behaviour and Discipline. We believe in consistent systems differentiated by age, in taking responsibility for our actions – in choice and consequence. We expect all staff will support the rules and codes and ensure consistent application and expectations across the school day.

**Rewards and Sanctions:** We believe positive behaviours should be rewarded to encourage good behaviour in the classroom and elsewhere in the school. The Policy on Behaviour and Discipline sets out a range of defined rewards and sanctions that encourage good behaviour, discourage unacceptable behaviour and that can be applied consistently and fairly across the school. The

reward and sanction system will be monitored regularly for consistency, fairness and effectiveness.

**The use of Reasonable Force or Other Physical Contact:** The Governors expect the Policy on Behaviour and Discipline to clearly set out the circumstances where staff and others with authority may use reasonable force or other physical contact to control inappropriate behaviour, remove disruptive pupils from learning environments or prevent pupils from leaving learning environments or school premises. At all times the use of force should be a last resort and the Governors expect that authorised staff are appropriately trained in the use of reasonable force and restraint and that all staff are given advice on de-escalation and behaviour management techniques. There is a statutory duty to record and report all significant incidents including all use of force. In cases where particular physical intervention techniques are identified as being necessary for particular pupils, the Governors expect individual pupil behaviour management plans to be drawn up.

**The Power to Discipline for Behaviour Outside of the School Gates:** The Governors expect the Policy on Behaviour and Discipline to set out the school's response to any non-criminal bad behaviour or bullying that occurs anywhere away from the school premises and which is witnessed by a member of staff or reported to the school. In this respect the Policy on Behaviour and Discipline must include the school's lawful response to any bad behaviour when the child is:

- Taking part in any school organised or school related activity
- Wearing school uniform
- Travelling to and from school
- In some other way, identifiable as a pupil at the school.

Even if the above conditions do not apply, the Policy must take account of misbehaviour at any time which:

- Could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- Poses a threat to another pupil or member of the public
- Could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

**Pastoral Care for School Staff Accused of Misconduct:** The Policy on Behaviour and Discipline must include details of how the school will respond to an allegation against a member of staff. The Governors would not expect automatic suspension of a member of staff who has been accused of misconduct, pending an investigation. However, they would expect the Headteacher to draw on and follow the advice in 'Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers' and other staff guidance documents when setting out the pastoral support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers. In addition, the Policy on Behaviour and Discipline should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against children who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff.