



## **DISCIPLINE AND EXCLUSIONS POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This policy is a 'Whole School Policy' and informs practice in the Senior School, Prep School and Nursery.

### **AIMS AND EXPECTATIONS**

2. It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school's behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure. The school has a number of rules, but our behaviour policy is not primarily concerned with rule enforcement. It is a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. This policy supports the school community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way. The school expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others. This policy aims to help children grow in a safe and secure environment, and to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the school community. The school rewards good behaviour, as it believes that this will develop an ethos of kindness and cooperation. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour.

### **REWARDS**

3. At Battle Abbey School, we encourage the establishment of good teacher/pupil relationships and support for the school's values through a system of rewards and sanctions which are designed to promote a calm, disciplined learning environment. Our system of rewards includes:

- Verbal praise and written praise for good work.
- Academic merits (House Points) are awarded for both effort, achievement and conduct which are celebrated both in the classroom and in the house.
- Annual subject and year group prizes.
- Reports to parents, which are always worded to be as constructive as possible.
- We operate a Commendation and Headmaster's Commendation system, celebrating the successes of excellent and outstanding work. For the Headmaster's Commendation the pupil receives a certificate in Assembly.

### **SANCTIONS FOR BREACHES OF DISCIPLINE THAT DO NOT MERIT EXCLUSION**

4. The teacher is responsible in the first instance for dealing with minor infringements, such as lateness, casual rudeness in class, late or poorly completed work. Additional work may be set, or the pupil may be required to re-do unsatisfactory work. Repetition of this behaviour may be reported to the Head of Department and to the pupil's Form Tutor, and may lead to a lunchtime detention. Minor indiscipline in class or other minor misdemeanours may be reported to the pupil's Form Tutor, and may lead to a pupil

being set a 'community service' task for a designated time, usually an hour, such as removing chewing gum, or collecting litter under the supervision of the duty staff. More serious misdemeanours are reported to the pupil's Form Tutor, and may lead to the withdrawal of privileges, for a designated period, and /or a School detention on Saturday may be issued by the Head of Key Stage. Persistently poor academic performance or poor behaviour may result in the Form Tutor / House Master/Mistress / Key Stage Head requiring a pupil's teachers to make written comments on performance at the end of every lesson for a period of one or two weeks. This is called 'on report', but is generally seen as a supportive measure rather than a punishment.

5. In line with Section 131 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 corporal punishment at Battle Abbey School is not carried out under any circumstances. The prohibition includes administration of corporal punishment to a pupil during any activity, whether or not within the school premises. The prohibition applies to all members of staff including those acting in loco parentis, such as unpaid volunteer workers. Under Sub Section 548(5) of the Education Act 1996, teachers may use "physical intervention" to avert "an immediate danger of personal injury to, or and immediate danger to the property of, a person (including the child himself)".

6. Where relevant account will be taken for special educational needs, language issues, cultural sensitivities and the age of children effected by any disciplinary issue.

### **EXCLUSIONS**

7. The Headmaster may suspend a pupil, for a period of between 24 hours and a few days for very serious indiscipline, or less serious offences, where repeated punishment has proved ineffective. If suspension is ineffective, or if the offence is judged to be extremely serious, the school may be forced to exclude the pupil permanently. The Headmaster will consult with the Chair of Governors when a student is in receipt of such punishment. Parents have the right of appeal against the decision to exclude a pupil as explained in the Terms and Conditions, signed by each parent on acceptance of entry to the school. Exclusions are recorded annually on the School 'Exclusions Register'. The following behaviour may merit exclusion:

- Drug abuse
- Alcohol abuse
- Theft
- Bullying
- Physical assault/ threatening behaviour
- Fighting
- Sexual harassment
- Racist abuse
- Sexual misconduct
- Damage to property
- Persistent disruptive behaviour
- Behaviour that brings the school into disrepute

- Parental behaviour that brings the school into disrepute or jeopardises the safeguarding of students, staff or other parents.
- Any other activity that is illegal under English law such as sending indecent images

Further details concerning discipline and exclusions can be found in the Behaviour for Learning Policy and the Substance Abuse Policy.