

# Behaviour Policy

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Adopted by: Larkwood LGB

Date: March 2016

Review date: September 2017

Signature of Chair of Governors: \_\_\_\_\_



## Introduction

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The Lime Trust Board is determined to make sure through this Behaviour Policy that its academies manage all aspects of behaviour to guarantee a positive working environment at all times, in which pupils feel safe, valued and respected. We firmly believe that good discipline is essential for good education and therefore take a zero tolerance approach to behaviour which is disruptive or anti-social. Local Governing Bodies will support actions by staff on all occasions to manage behaviour through the sanctions set out within this policy, including exclusion where necessary. The Behaviour Policy takes account of the DfE Guidance, "Behaviour and Discipline in Schools" (2016) and "Exclusion from maintained school, Academies and pupil referral units in England: a guide for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion" (2012)

Larkwood Academy Local Governing Body firmly believes that all the children at Larkwood deserve every opportunity to learn in an encouraging, safe environment. They have very high expectations of behaviour which has resulted in a school environment that is very calm, productive and positive. There is an expectation that all parents will support the school in maintaining this high standard.

## Aims and objectives

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- To ensure consistency of approach
- To ensure that all staff, children and parents/carers know the school's expectations of behaviour
- To ensure that all staff, children and parents/carers are clear about procedures for promoting positive behaviour and sanctioning poor behaviour
- To promote behaviour that is conducive to learning
- To teach children to be reflective, to raise self esteem and promote belonging.

## Equal opportunities

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The Lime Trust expects every member of the community to behave in a considerate way towards others. We treat all children fairly and apply this policy without prejudice in a consistent, non-judgmental way. All children will be treated equally regardless of need. This policy promotes equality for all and aims to eradicate extremist views.

## The Lime Trust Ethos and Values

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The Lime Trust ethos is one of inclusion and celebration. We believe that all members of the school community are;

- To be included, valued and safe
- To be creative, inspired and challenged
- To take responsibility for our own learning and development
- To have effective working partnerships with others

Larkwood Primary Academy is a values led school. Our values encourage all stakeholders to display the behaviours expected of a member of our school community.

We believe that the following values are what make us who we are and as a result we expect all pupils, parents, staff and governors to live by them.

- Enjoyment
- Equality
- Trust
- Partnership
- Excellence
- Courage

Our policies and procedures along with daily systems and structures reflect our strong ethos of 'no harm to others'.

Staff actively seek opportunities to praise and reward children for displaying these values. These values are discussed in assemblies and are clearly visible on displays.

Within The Lime Trust we;

- Are always positive when speaking to each other
- Do not raise our voices
- Always looks for a solution rather than a problem
- Ensure that children are given behavioural reminders and opportunities to make appropriate choices
- Have a clear line of responsibility – Class teacher, Head of Year, Lead Practitioner, Assistant Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Headteacher
- Adopt a 'walking not talking' approach to travelling around the school. This is to ensure that all pupils and adults are moving around the school in a safe, sensible and orderly manner, ensuring maximum safety at all times as well as maintaining an excellent environment for learning
- Do not accept any form of harm to others or extremist views.

## Strategies for promoting positive behaviour

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### **Praise**

Praise is the most effective strategy in promoting good behaviour, self-discipline, displaying the school values and showing respect to others. Praise should be freely given and specific – e.g. *"That piece of work is wonderful because you have tried really hard to improve your handwriting."* Praise should be evident in the following forms:

- Verbal
- Written feedback
- Referring a child to another adult to share their work
- Sharing positive messages about behaviour and learning with parents/carers through phone calls and informal meetings and post cards home

## Dojos

Every class uses 'Dojos', which is an online reward system. This system allows teachers to give points to individuals, groups and whole classes for displaying effective behaviour for learning, a high standard of work or good discipline. When awarding dojo points, staff should praise the child and link this to the particular value that the child is displaying. In addition, children in the Early Years Foundation Stage will be rewarded Dojos for; displaying the school's values, sitting on the carpet, tidying up, being on task and completing tasks that encourage independence.

At the end of each week the girl and boy with the highest number of Dojos is rewarded with a prize from their class teacher. The Dojo points should be re-set at the end of the week so that all children feel they are able to win.

It is important to note that Dojos are never taken away as they should promote self-esteem and positively reinforce good behaviour.

To maintain the value of Dojo points, only one point should be awarded at any one time.

## Sanctions

In order to ensure a consistent approach, the following sanctions should be used.

Stage 1 – Verbal reminder

Stage 2 – Name moved on the warning board

Stage 3 – Loss of 2 minutes of play time

Stage 4 – Loss of 5 minutes of play time

Stage 5 – Time out of class with Head of Year or Lead Practitioner with work to complete (record to be kept)

Stage 6 – A child who has regularly had time out of class should be placed on learning report. This report will be shared with parents daily.

Stage 7– SLT involvement with parents with the possibility of lunch time, fixed term or permanent exclusion

In some instances a child may need to miss some of their play time in order to complete work to an acceptable standard if this has not been done in the lesson. When making such considerations, teachers will use their judgement of what the child is usually able to do in the time given and will organise appropriate supervision.

A warning board should be displayed within each classroom, with stages 2 to 5 visible to children. Teachers use their judgement to place names on a warning and move down the sanction list if negative behaviour continues.

It is important that children are given a clean slate after each break time in order to give them the opportunity to display positive behaviours.

Certain behaviours warrant an immediate 'drop down' to stages 5-7. These include:

- Wilful harm of another person-physical or verbal
- Inappropriate language
- Racist or homophobic incidents
- Overtly refusing to comply with staff
- Bullying
- Theft
- Vandalism

This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other situations where it is deemed necessary to involve members of the leadership team.

## Exclusion

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The decision to exclude a pupil will be made in the following instances:

- Following a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour systems
- In instances where allowing a pupil to remain in school could seriously harm the education or welfare of pupils and others in school

Exclusions could be for a fixed term period e.g. 2 days or permanent. The school may also decide to exclude a pupil internally or to exclude them from lunchtimes if necessary.

The Lime Trust follows 'The National Standard List of Reasons for Exclusion' (see Appendix 1)

Incidents are investigated and decisions to exclude are made by the Head Teacher (or Deputy Head when deputising for the Headteacher) based on the evidence and the balance of probability.

Where a decision is made to exclude a pupil, parents will be notified of the period of the exclusion and the reasons for it.

When a child returns to school from exclusion, a 'return to school' meeting will take place on their first morning back with the child, parent and a member of the senior leadership team present.

## Appeals

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Parents have the right to appeal to the governing body when a decision to exclude is made. The governing body must consider any representations made by parents but does not have the power to overturn the head teacher's decision unless the exclusion is for longer than 5 days.

The governing body must convene a meeting, in response to an appeal, to consider reinstatement in the following situations:

- When the exclusion will result in the pupil missing a public examination
- When the exclusion is permanent
- When the exclusion takes the child's total number of days of exclusion in a term to above 15

(See Appendix 2 for a summary of the governing body's duties to review the head teacher's exclusion decision)

## Behaviour beyond the school gates

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The head teacher may sanction a pupil for their behaviour beyond the school gates in situations where:

- The pupil is taking part in an organised school trip or activity
- The pupil is travelling to or from school
- The pupil is wearing their uniform

Misbehaviour at any time outside of school hours will be sanctioned (including exclusion where necessary) if it:

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

Incidents of misbehaviour including bullying and cyber-bullying, which take place outside the school gates will be fully investigated and appropriate sanctions will be taken.

## Physical restraint

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Wherever possible, it is school policy not to physically restrain pupils, however the school reserves the right and takes responsibility for any pupil at risk of self-harm or harming others.

## Partnership

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Staff, pupils and parents are expected to work in partnership to ensure a good level of behaviour for learning and so that our children become reflective individuals with high self-esteem and a sense of belonging. We aim that all of our children are solution focused, critical thinkers and that we give them the tools to deal with situations. Parents are required to sign a home school agreement to this effect. This is also a clear message given to parents at our 'Meet the Teacher' events at the beginning of the autumn term. The school will inform parents of any concerns as quickly as possible so that a child's behaviour can return to an appropriate level.

Where necessary, outside agencies such as the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), Educational Psychologists, Child and Family Consultation Services (CFCS), Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) will work in partnership with the school and the family. This will be a multi-agency approach.

We expect parents to behave in a fair and reasonable manner towards all school staff. Incidents of verbal or physical aggression towards staff will be taken extremely seriously and may be referred to the police for further action.



## NATIONAL STANDARD LIST OF REASONS FOR EXCLUSION

The DfE has produced a national standard list of reasons to be used when reporting exclusion. The 12 categories should cover the main reasons for exclusions and the 'other' category should be used sparingly. The further details suggesting what the descriptors cover should be used as a guide and are not intended to be used as a tick list for exclusions.

### **Physical assault against pupil**

Includes:

- fighting
- violent behaviour
- wounding
- obstruction and jostling

### **Physical assault against adult**

Includes:

- violent behaviour
- wounding
- obstruction and jostling

### **Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against pupil**

Includes:

- threatened violence
- aggressive behaviour
- swearing
- homophobic abuse and harassment
- verbal intimidation
- carrying an offensive weapon

### **Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against adult**

Includes:

- threatened violence
- aggressive behaviour
- swearing
- homophobic abuse and harassment
- verbal intimidation
- carrying an offensive weapon



## **Bullying**

Includes:

- verbal
- physical
- homophobic bullying
- racist bullying

## **Racist abuse**

Includes:

- racist taunting and harassment
- derogatory racist statements
- swearing that can be attributed to racist characteristics
- racist bullying
- racist graffiti

## **Sexual misconduct**

Includes:

- sexual abuse
- sexual assault
- sexual harassment
- lewd behaviour
- sexual bullying
- sexual graffiti

## **Drug & Alcohol related**

Includes:

- possession of illegal drugs
- inappropriate use of prescribed drugs
- drug dealing
- smoking
- alcohol abuse
- substance abuse

## **Damage**

Includes damage to school or personal property belonging to any member of the school community:

- vandalism
- arson
- graffiti



## **Theft**

Includes:

- stealing school property
- stealing personal property (pupil or adult)
- stealing from local shops on a school outing
- selling and dealing in stolen property

## **Persistent disruptive behaviour**

Includes:

- challenging behaviour
- disobedience
- persistent violation of school rules

## **Other**

Includes incidents which are not covered by the categories above but this category should be used sparingly.

## Annex A – A summary of the governing body’s duties to review the head teacher’s exclusion decision

