

Behaviour & Relationship Policy

December 2021

1. Aim

This school policy sits within the framework of the ETAT Overarching Statement of Intent for Behaviour Management. It aims to set out the detail of how behaviour is managed in school, including procedures and systems for rewards and consequences. It is designed to encourage positive, (pro-social) and acceptable (expected)* behaviour and ensure we deal effectively with unacceptable (or non-expected)* behaviour.

*These are terms used in the Zones of Regulation curriculum designed to support children's understanding of behaviour choices, particularly children with SEND. We also prefer to refer to 'consequences' rather than 'sanctions' but both may be used

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy complies with the following:

Guidance from the Department for Education (DfE):

- Behaviour and discipline in schools
- Use of reasonable force in schools
- <u>The Equality Act 2010: advice for schools</u>

Statutory guidance from the DfE

- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice 2014
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

MPET is a **Rights Respecting** school. We believe that children should be taught to show respect for the rights of others, and display courtesy and consideration towards all members of our community at all times. References are made to specific rights (**articlessee Appendix A**) throughout this policy.

3. Ethos and values

Good behaviour and discipline are essential to creating a successful teaching and learning environment in which all pupils feel safe, secure and ready to learn. Our vision statement of 'Learn Together to Live Together' drives the principles of all ETAT school behaviour policies, recognising that children may not always make positive, pro-social behaviour choices, but these moments can be used as a tool for learning, personal growth and development.

At MPET we believe that positive behaviour should be the outcomes of positive, consistent and defined relationships between staff and pupils. It is essential to have **a positive behaviour management strategy.**

MPET recognises its legal duties under the Equality Act 2010, Education Act 2011 including all sections relating to children with Special Educational Needs (Article 23).

4. Behaviour Management Principles

- We, as adults, model calm, controlled and caring behaviour.
- Our attention as adults is focused first on those children who are behaving in an expected way.
- We look to highlight the children going 'over and above' and give them the formal recognition.
- We define as a school what we will consistently do: recognition, expectations and routines.
- We use scripted interventions.

5. Behaviour Management Guidelines

- At MPET we believe there is a shared responsibility between staff, parents and pupils for the promotion of good behaviour.
- Children are praised for doing the right thing at every opportunity, using, where appropriate, language related to the UN Conventions of the Rights of the Child.
- Praise is used specifically to reinforce expected behaviour
- All adults model positive and appropriate behaviour at all times
- All children are involved in making and maintaining the rules. They have a right to say what they think should happen and to have their opinions taken into account (Article 12)
- All rules must be seen to be fair and applied consistently yet flexibly, taking into account individual circumstances. All rules are justified in terms of being required to ensure safety, well-being or learning.
- Expectations are phrased positively e.g. "walk slowly" rather than "don't run"
- Staff use a quiet and calm manner when dealing with children
- Rewards/Consequences for school expectations are clear, appropriate, fair and relevant and take into account individual circumstances (Article 39)
- Discipline should respect children's dignity (Article 28). Therefore, consequences at MPET do not humiliate but allow the child to learn from their mistakes.
- Children are given time to reflect and discuss their behaviour
- Parents/Carers are involved at the earliest opportunity where a child's behaviour is causing concern and staff work closely with them to bring about improvement.

6. Roles and responsibilities

6.1 Trustees / Trust Executive Team / Local Governing Body

Trustees and the Trust Executive Team have overarching responsibility for ensuring this policy complies with this statement and that the governing board is fulfilling its role at school level.

The governing board is responsible for ensuring this behaviour policy's effectiveness and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation and application.

6.2 Headteacher and School Leaders

The Headteacher and School Leaders are responsible for reviewing the school's behaviour policy. They will:

- Ensure that the school environment encourages positive behaviour
- Support staff to deal effectively with poor behaviour choices
- Monitor how staff implement this policy to ensure rewards and consequences are applied consistently.

6.3 All staff

Staff responsibilities are:

- To model positive behaviours
- To show children that we regard them as individuals and we will welcome them at our classroom door every morning with a smile
- To teach children what good conduct and expected behaviour looks like by setting clear routines and expectations.
- To recognise good conduct publicly and correct unexpected behaviour and conduct privately.
- To respond consistently (using the same recognition, language and consequences)
- To remain calm and assertive when managing unexpected behaviours.

6.4 Parents/Carers

Parents/carer responsibilities are:

- To ensure they have a clear understanding of this policy copies are provided when children join the school and an electronic copy is available on the school website.
- To make children aware of appropriate behaviour in the school and support the implementation of this policy
- To encourage independence and self-discipline
- To try to foster good relationships with the school
- To know the school rules and expectations

6.5 Pupils

Pupil responsibilities are:

- To contribute to discussions at the start of the year when establishing the class charter
- To follow school rules and the class charter to the best of their ability
- To treat other people, resources and their environment with respect
- To follow instructions from adults within the school, questioning politely if they don't understand them or believe them to be unfair

7. Expectations and Procedures

7.1 Rules

At MPET alongside the values of the month and the UN Rights of the Child, we have three simple rules which are referred to in discussions about conduct.

Our three rules are that every child be:

- 1. Respectful
- 2. Safe
- 3. Ready to learn

Each class draws up a class charter at the start of the year with more detailed rules and expectations of behaviour.

We expect children to realise that expected/ positive behaviour is rewarded and unexpected behaviour results in consequences. We aim to help children understand that they have rights and that they cannot take away the rights of others (Article 4).

7.2 Teaching Appropriate Behaviour

At MPET we recognise that children come from a range of backgrounds and family circumstances where different rules and expectations apply. We have a responsibility to teach children:

- what the expectations are in school and why
- to understand their responsibilities towards others in the school community to ensure everyone is safe and able to learn
- how to modify their behaviour to suit different contexts
- how to recognise and control their emotions in order to modify their behaviour

We teach this through:

- Learn Together lessons, circle times and assemblies
- Zones of Regulation curriculum
- Focussing on a 'value of the month' and reinforcing how these can be applied in daily life
- Small group and 1:1 intervention as required

Values of the Month:

- Responsibility
- Respect
- Friendship
- Peace
- Perseverance
- Kindness
- Justice
- Integrity
- Courage
- Empathy
- Thankfulness

7.3 Rewards

Positive and expected behaviours will be rewarded with:

- Praise and encouragement (specific)
- Reinforcement from SLT (visits to HT, for verbal praise and sometimes stickers)
- Positive messages home via SeeSaw and Tapestry
- Class dojo points
- Individual reward certificates presented during the weekly celebration assembly
- Whole class rewards (agreed and negotiated by the class)
- Additional class reward systems through the year as appropriate to the needs of individual classes
- Personalised rewards used in line with individual support plans

7.4 Stages of Consequences

	Application	Useful language
Stage 1 Reminder	 No set number of reminders Delivered as privately as possible Links back to the school rules and children's rights Distraction can work well for refusal behaviours at this point 	 I'm very impressed by how well (another child) is doing X. Thank you so much. (NAME), are you okay? I've noticed that I can see you are struggling with X, how can I help? Do you remember one of our rules is X?
Stage 2 Caution	 Only 1 caution is given Again, draw attention to another child following the rule first and thank them Firmer, more assertive tone than the reminder (but not aggressive) Remind child of the rule or routine which is not being followed Give choices, so that the child feels in control Explain the consequence if the rule/routine isn't now followed Walk away so as not to get into a back-and-forth negotiation. 	 A short conversation (not a time for discussion) (NAME) you know X is one off our rules at MPET I expect you to do XYou can Or If this unexpected behaviour continues you will need to have time out of the classroom. Walk away (NAME) you know being safe is one of our rules at MPET I expect you to stop running in class, you can join the class on the carpet or take some time in the calm area. If this unexpected behaviour continues you will need to have time out of the distribution of the classroom.

Stage 3 Last chance	 Only 1 last chance given. This is the last chance before a change/consequence Use the scripted intervention Be clear and specific about behaviour. Remind the child that by showing this unexpected behaviour they are choosing to have a consequence Finish by reminding the child of when they did succeed in following this rule (try to be specific). Give positive encouragement. Tell the child that you will talk to them at the end of the session. At the end of the session child needs to spend 2 Minutes discussing the behaviours that led to this. ZoR could be referred to if appropriate. 	Scripted intervention (NAME) I notice that you are (specify unexpected behaviour). It was the rule of being (respectful/safe/ready to learn) that you are not showing. If it continues you have chosen to spend some time outside of the SLT office. Do you remember last week when you? (highlight example of them following the rule) That is the (NAME) I need to see now. I know you can do this, I know you can be brilliant. We will talk about this at the end of the session Then walk away to give 'take up time' and avoid getting into a negotiation or shifting blame.
Stage 4 Time out / internal seclusion	Sent to work outside of the SLT office for a specified time. Member of SLT supervises.	 Deliver request to move calmly and assertively: 1. (NAME) you have chosen to continue not to show our rule of being 2. You now need to go to for minutes

Generally, children would move through the stages one by one. However, stages may be skipped for example a Stage 4 internal seclusion can be issued in the case of extremely dangerous behaviour.

Dangerous & persistent behaviour may need the support of SLT:

Fighting	Where a member of SLT is called:
 Fighting 2nd time out in same session Throwing furniture/breaking equipment Bullying Hate language Disruption which prevents the class from learning Most children demonstrating these behaviours will have an Individual Behaviour Plan and should be referred to Record on CPOMS and parents informed 	 Ask SLT member to come to the class Adult dealing with the behaviour to speak to the children with the SLT member present SLT member will reinforce the messages the adult has given I have asked (NAME SLT) to join us because you have chosen to We need to share what has happened. The behaviour (NAME CHILD) has been showing is

Stages of consequences for repeated or severe Behaviours

Stage 5	Individual Behaviour Plan	
IBP	This is a formal plan agreed with parents/carers and usually involves referral to specialist	
	agencies if possible. Not to be confused with behaviour support plans for children with	
	additional needs.	
	Stage 5 plans are used for children whose behaviour is still a concern after moving through stages 1-4	
Stage 6	Excluded from school for a fixed period of time. Formerly known as a fixed term exclusion	
Suspension	Stage 6 suspension may be issued if children do not comply with a stage 4 internal inclusion and are behaving unsafely. A stage 5 IBP would be drawn up as soon as possible for their return to school. At the end of stage 6 there will be an agreed reintegration meeting	
Stage 7	Permanent Exclusion	
Exclusion		

Re-integration meetings are always held with parents after stage 5 IBPs are set up or reviewed after stage 6 suspensions. All possible strategies and external support will be employed to avoid further suspensions, including alternative learning provision if appropriate.

Permanent exclusions are rare and would only be issued following recurring suspensions and/or failure of all support strategies and alternative provision.

All sanctions from Stage 3 up are recorded on our safeguarding monitoring system (CPOMS).

At MPET we believe in the importance of emphasising positive behaviour. Consequences are tools for learning, they should be fair and effective, they should not be humiliating or disproportionate. The system is designed to be consistent and fair, but with enough flexibility to be age-appropriate and adaptable for those with SEND or other additional need.

The behaviour management system at MPET is based on the principle of putting mistakes right.

Repair conversations – Restorative conversations:

- a. Take place at an appropriate time when the child is calm.
- b. Can be short for minor conduct breaches or may be longer when there has been refusals or deregulated behaviour.
- c. Focus on reflection and restoring relationships (not blame or further punishment)

We provide a range of support for children at or at risk of reaching stage 5 including social skills, friendship and play support, emotional regulation support and restorative justice sessions.

9. Pupil support

MPET recognises its legal duty under the Equality Act 2010 to prevent pupils with a protected characteristic from being at a disadvantage.

Our behaviour management system is clear and consistent but is equitably applied. At every stage additional support is provided or adjustments made as required to ensure the consequences are fair and proportionate in relation to a child's understanding and cognitive ability. Follow-up action also take into account the intention behind and the context of the behaviour, with a focus on challenging and removing root causes.

Challenging and negative behaviour will always be assessed by school leaders and/or SEND specialists to determine any underlying issues or unmet need. Where necessary, support and advice will also be sought from specialist teachers, an educational psychologist, a Speech and Language Therapist, Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) medical practitioners and/or others, to identify or support specific needs. When acute needs are identified in a pupil, we will liaise with external agencies and plan support programmes for that child. We will work with parents to create an individual support plan and review it on a regular basis using the graduated approach to SEND support: assess, plan, do, review.

10. Bullying

Bullying is defined as the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying is, therefore:

- Deliberately hurtful
- Repeated, often over a period of time
- Unwanted and difficult to defend against

Bullying can be:

- Emotional / verbal
- Physical
- Sexual
- Online

Bullying and harassment may also include racist or other discriminatory abuse, often targeting particular areas of vulnerability.

At MPET we teach children to understand, recognise, challenge and prevent bullying and understand the difference between bullying and other forms of social conflict (NB peer and friendship issues which are a normal part of children's development). We have a staged process for dealing with bullying:

Stage 1	An allegation is made but there is no clear evidence that bullying	
'monitoring'	has occurred.	
	All children concerned are placed on 'monitoring' and all staff are	
	asked to be vigilant and record (on CPOMS) any interaction or	
	issue, however minor	
Stage 2	There is evidence that bullying or harassment has taken place and	
Contract	the children involved agree a contract of behaviour which states	
	clearly what is and is not allowed and the sanctions that would	
	happen if the agreement is breached.	
Stage 3	Stage 2 contract is breached and there is clearly targeted and	
Anti-bullying	systematic bullying and harassment.	
plan		
	The child being bullied has an individual safety plan designed to	
	minimise risk of further harm without curbing their freedom or	
	limiting their experiences.	
	The child who has been bullying or harassing has an individual	
	behaviour plan with clear consequences, restrictions and	
	expectations and a restorative justice action plan.	
	There are excess in which the bull increased because the complex.	
	There are cases in which the bullying and harassment is complex	
	and not clearly one-sided. Children may need a combination of	
	behaviour and support plans.	
	In both support and behaviour plans, additional support will be	
	provided to help children recover and learn from the experience.	

10. Positive Handling

The use of force to restrain or control children is only used when it is the only safe option and would always comply with 'The Use of Reasonable Force in School' guidance (DfE 2012).

All staff working directly with children receive training in de-escalation techniques and basic principles of safe positive handling. At MPET, our focus is on prevention and de-escalation in order to avoid the need for any kind of physical force, which is used only when there is immediate risk of serious harm.

MPET recognises that many children who display dangerous or extreme behaviour have experienced some kind of trauma and that restraint and physical force can re-traumatise. In order to maintain a safe learning environment for all children (**article 28**), we do not tolerate dangerous and disruptive behaviour. However, we also seek to minimise the use of force and restraint. Therefore, as part of our staged system, all stage 5 individual behaviour plans include prevention strategies and adjustments to minimise the risk of needing to use physical force or restraint.

11. Safeguarding and SEND

We respond to inappropriate behaviour by investigating and trying to understand the cause. Inappropriate behaviour can be an indication of issues relating to child protection or unmet special educational need (**Article 39**). As well as the immediate response as set out in our sanctions procedures, we act promptly to identify potential underlying issues and agree a prevention and support plan with parents/carers and/or external agencies where appropriate.

Appendix A - UNCRC Rights of the child

Article 2 Every child has these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.

Article 4 Governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights.

Article 12 Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

Article 13 Every child must be free to say what they think and to seek and receive information of any kind as long as it is within the law.

Article 14 Every child has the right to think and believe what they want, and to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights.

Article 19 Governments should ensure that children are properly cared for, and protect them from violence, abuse and neglect by their parents, or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 23 Children who gave any kind of disability should receive special care and support so that they can live a full and independent life.

Article 27 Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical, social and mental needs.

Article 28 Every children has a right to primary education, which should be free. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity;

Article 29 Education must develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage children to respect their parents, and their own and other cultures.

Article 30 Children have a right to learn and use the language and customs of their families, whether these are shared by the majority of people in the country or not.

Article 31 Children have the right to relax, play and to join in a wide range of leisure activites.

Article 39 Children who have been neglected or abused should receive special help to restore their self-respect



