



Odyssey House School

Behaviour Management Policy (Including Discipline and Exclusions)

Equal Opportunities

In line with equal opportunities, all children are expected to meet the high expectations of behaviour set. We aim to create:

- a culture where every child takes responsibility for their own actions and understands how their behaviour impacts on others
- an ethos which is based on praise and encouragement
- an environment where every child and adult feels safe and secure
- an environment where everyone respects others and treats them with kindness and consideration.

In partnership with parents

The school aims to work in partnership with parents at all times. Parents are expected to support the school in upholding the school rules and creating an orderly climate for learning. They have the right to be informed promptly of any emerging difficulties their children present.

Parents have particular responsibilities in ensuring regular and punctual attendance at school.

Promoting good behaviour

We believe that good behaviour needs to be modelled and taught. All staff have access to a range of CPD opportunities to develop their behaviour management strategies and skills. Suggested strategies for promoting positive behaviour are regularly reviewed and discussed. We encourage staff to discuss and share good practice

Rewards and sanctions

Odyssey House School aims to ensure its policies are applied fairly and consistently. To ensure the highest standards in both behaviour and work we will create an ethos of encouragement, using regular praise, congratulation and affirmation to develop students' self-confidence and self-esteem. The reward system is an important means of achieving this, helping students to realise that responsibility to self and others is valued. At times, however, sanctions will need to be used to respond to undesirable behaviour. In these cases, staff will clarify why the sanction is being applied and what changes in behaviour are required to avoid future sanctions.

Students requiring additional support

Odyssey House School recognises that some students require additional support to conform to the expectations of behaviour of the school. Students with additional needs are identified in a variety of ways including:

- assessment on entry
- regular testing
- self-referral
- teacher and parent concerns
- monitoring of behaviour by class teachers

Students who require additional support may be:

- offered support from staff with individual targets which will be regularly monitored;
- referred for an assessment of their needs
- referred for a multi-agency assessment
- referred to mentoring, group work, anger management support, specialist behaviour support
- given EAL support

Odyssey House School will regularly review students who are referred for additional support in order to ensure that their needs are being met. Where inadequate progress is being made the school will consider what else may be available both from within the school and from a range of outside agencies with which the school has contact (e.g. CAMHS, Social Care, educational psychologist, specialist behaviour support).

Anti-bullying procedures

Odyssey House School is determined that all students should feel safe at school and enjoy education. A key feature of this is the strong stance taken against all forms of bullying, including cyber-bullying, harassment and peer-on-peer abuse. The school's policy on preventing and addressing any of these can be found in the anti-bullying policy and

procedures.

Behaviour out of school

Students are expected to uphold the reputation of the school whenever they are out of school. Students may be subject to disciplinary sanctions if their behaviour, including the use of mobile technology and social media brings the school into disrepute.

Odyssey House School cannot be responsible for student behaviour when they are out of School but will endeavour to investigate any incident that is reported to the school.

Use of force

Staff are discouraged from touching students because this can be misinterpreted. However, we aim to provide a supportive environment and it may be appropriate from time to time to lightly touch a student's upper body in order to guide or reassure. In accordance with the Education and Skills Act 2006 all staff may on occasion need to control or in extreme circumstances restrain a student in order to ensure that they do not:

- hurt themselves
- hurt somebody else
- damage property
- prejudice the good order of the school

In the event of this requiring anything other than a light touch to the upper body an Incident Report Form will always be completed and parents informed.

Exclusions

Odyssey House School recognises that exclusion is a serious matter and has the potential to affect the student's life chances in a significant way. All our students attend Odyssey House because they have issues and so have an initial trial period at the end of which a decision is made as to whether we can properly meet their needs. It is our policy not to exclude students unless absolutely necessary. However, on rare occasions, it may be that Odyssey House is not a suitable placement for an individual, in which case it may be terminated by agreement with all relevant parties. In the case of behaviours shown below, exclusion may have to be considered after all the relevant factors have been considered and when the Head teacher is convinced that there is no alternative.

- serious actual or threatened violence against a student, member of staff or member of the public
- sexual abuse or assault
- supplying an illegal drug
- carrying a weapon (e.g. gun, knife etc.)

The Head will ensure that:

- a thorough investigation has been carried out
- the evidence has been considered
- where appropriate, statements have been taken from witnesses
- the student has had the opportunity to give his/her version of events.

Education elsewhere or managed moves

There may be rare occasions where a pupil's needs cannot be met, or are unlikely to be met by Odyssey House. This may, for example, come to light during the initial assessment period. If this is the case we will discuss the situation with parents to work out strategies for supporting the child in school. This may require additional support for the child in the first instance, or we may suggest that we support the child elsewhere through outreach. We may ultimately decide that a managed move to a more suitable school is the best way forward. Whatever the situation, we will always have the best interests of the child and the other pupils at Odyssey House School at heart, and will work in conjunction with parents to achieve it.

Roles and responsibilities

All staff play an important role in positive behaviour management and discipline.

Training

The Proprietor and Head teacher will ensure that high quality training on all aspects of behaviour management is provided to support the implementation of this policy.

Review

The Headteacher in conjunction with staff, students and parents will regularly review this policy and associated procedures to ensure its continuing appropriateness and effectiveness, and make necessary adjustments if appropriate.

Rewards and Sanctions: NB. These lists are not exhaustive.

Examples of behaviour that will merit a reward

- Consistent hard work and effort in class and extra-curricular activities
- Encouraging and supporting fellow students
- Consistent helpfulness
- Taking part in charitable activities or those which benefit the school and/or local community

Types of reward

- Oral and Written Praise
- Phone call home to parents
- 'Congratulations' and 'good news' postcards home
- Personalised letters to parents

Examples of behaviour that will attract a sanction

- Physical violence towards another student, member of staff or other adult
- Bullying, including cyber-bullying, or harassment
- Failing to complete required homework/course work
- Verbal abuse
- Failure to follow instructions
- Damage to property or equipment
- Negative use of social media regarding the school, students or members of staff

Types of sanction

- Oral reprimand
- Repeat inadequate work
- A phone call home to parents
- Confiscations

Please also refer to the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.