Willow School



Behaviour Policy

Date: September 2024

Review Date: September 2025

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide a consistent approach to behaviour management
- Define what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour, including bullying
- Outline how pupils are expected to behave
- Summarise the roles and responsibilities of different people in the school community with regards to behaviour management
- Outline our system of rewards and sanctions

Legislation and Statutory

This policy is based on legislation and advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on:

- Behaviour in schools: advice for headteachers and school staff 2024
- Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools 2022
- The Equality Act 2010
- <u>Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023</u>
- Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral
 units in England, including pupil movement 2023
- Use of reasonable force in schools
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice

In addition, this policy is based on:

- Section 175 of the <u>Education Act 2002</u>, which outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of its pupils
- Sections 88 to 94 of the <u>Education and Inspections Act 2006</u>, which requires schools to regulate pupils' behaviour and publish a behaviour policy and written statement of behaviour principles, and gives schools the authority to confiscate pupils' property
- Schedule 1 of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014; paragraph 7 outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, paragraph 9 requires the school to have a written behaviour policy, and paragraph 10 requires the school to have an anti-bullying strategy

Definitions

Serious mis-behaviour is defined as:

- Repeated breaches of the school rules
- Any form of bullying
- Swearing

- Sexual assault, which is any unwanted sexual behaviour that causes humiliation, pain, fear or intimidation
- Vandalism
- Theft
- Fighting
- Smoking/vaping
- Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory behaviour
- Possession of any prohibited items. These are:
 - o Knives or weapons
 - o Alcohol
 - o Illegal drugs
 - o Stolen items
 - o Tobacco, cigarette papers and vapes
 - o Fireworks
 - o Pornographic images
 - Any article a staff member reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil)

Bullying

Bullying is defined as the repetitive, intentional harming of 1 person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying is, therefore:

- Deliberately hurtful
- o Repeated, often over a period of time
- o Difficult to defend against
- We do not tolerate bullying.
- Bullying should never be ignored.
- All instances of bullying must be recorded on BromCom to allow them to be analysed and monitored.
- Parents and carers should be informed by teacher (or lead of lesson/activity) via telephone or in face to face meeting.
- Children, their families and staff can report incidents of bullying by speaking to their child's class teacher, or any member of Willow staff. If bullying occurs offsite or online Willow staff will support the children involved to repair, reflect and make amends.
- Every instance needs to be addressed, with each learner involved taking responsibility for his/her actions, apologising and agreeing to stop/change the behaviour causing concern.
- Learners are supported to develop age-appropriate level e-literacy so that they are able to keep themselves safe on-line and report cyber-bullying.
- Opportunities for parents and carers to learn about e-safety and how they can implement and manage this at home.

- Willow School is pro-active in its approach to preventing bullying and follows a comprehensive PSHE curriculum at an ability-appropriate level that reinforces the importance of being kind.
- Staff are required to read KCSIE.
- Further guidance is available in the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.

Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence

We want everyone to feel included, respected and safe in our school. We will not tolerate verbal abuse, which includes name-calling and sexist comments.

All staff through training maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' and hold a zero-tolerance approach to any sexual violence and sexual harassment.

Sexist comments – are those which discriminate based on sex, particularly against women.

Sexism - also includes behaviours or attitudes that create stereotypes of social roles based on sex.

All staff and pupils are encouraged to call out and/or report this behaviour . If pupils make these comments, we will:

- Ask them to apologise to anyone the comment was directed at
- Support and educate them to improve behaviour. This could include specific time with the school Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) to look at how and why to improve behaviours and attitudes.
- Monitor their behaviour for any recurrence
- If necessary include discussions with parents and escalate the sanction following the behaviour policy.

Our RHSE curriculum will cover what healthy and respectful behaviours towards one another looks and sound like. Our curriculum also considers what is appropriate and not-appropriate in relationships with others, including face to face and virtually. Our Jigsaw unit of work 'Relationships' and sessions delivered by The Stay Safe Partnership directly address what are acceptable behaviours.

Roles and Responsibilities

The governing body/proprietor is responsible for monitoring this behaviour policy's effectiveness and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Reviewing and approving this behaviour policy
- Ensuring that the school environment encourages positive behaviour
- Ensuring that staff deal effectively with poor behaviour
- Monitoring how staff implement this policy to ensure rewards and sanctions are applied consistently to all groups of pupils
- Ensuring that all staff understand the behavioural expectations and the importance of maintaining them

- Providing new staff with a clear induction into the school's behavioural culture to ensure they understand its rules and routines, and how best to support all pupils to participate fully
- Offering appropriate training in behaviour management, and the impact of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and mental health needs on behaviour, to any staff who require it, so they can fulfil their duties set out in this policy
- Ensuring this policy works alongside the safeguarding policy to offer pupils both sanctions and support when necessary
- Ensuring that the data from the behaviour log is reviewed regularly, to make sure that no groups of pupils are being disproportionately impacted by this policy

Staff are responsible for:

- Creating a calm and safe environment for pupils
- Establishing and maintaining clear boundaries of acceptable pupil behaviour
- Implementing the behaviour policy consistently
- Communicating the school's expectations, routines, values and standards through teaching behaviour and in every interaction with pupils
- Modelling expected behaviour and positive relationships
- Providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular pupils
- Considering the impact of their own behaviour on the school culture and how they can uphold school rules and expectations
- Recording behaviour incidents promptly
- Challenging pupils to meet the school's expectations
- The senior leadership team (SLT) will support staff in responding to behaviour incidents.

Parents and carers, where possible, should:

- Get to know the school's behaviour policy and reinforce it at home where appropriate
- Support their child in adhering to the school's behaviour policy
- Inform the school of any changes in circumstances that may affect their child's behaviour
- Discuss any behavioural concerns with the class teacher promptly
- Take part in any pastoral work following misbehaviour (for example, attending reviews of specific behaviour interventions)
- Raise any concerns about the management of behaviour with the school directly, while continuing to work in partnership with the school
- Take part in the life of the school and its culture

The school will endeavour to build a positive relationship with parents and carers by keeping them informed about developments in their child's behaviour and the school's policy and working in collaboration with them to tackle behavioural issues.

Pupils will be made aware of the following during their induction into the behaviour culture:

• The expected standard of behaviour they should be displaying at school

- That they have a duty to follow the behaviour policy
- The school's key rules and routines
- The rewards and consequences in place as part of the behaviour policy
- The pastoral support that is available to them

Pupils will be supported to meet the behaviour standards and will be provided with repeated induction sessions wherever appropriate.

Pupils will be supported to develop an understanding of the school's behaviour policy and wider culture.

Pupils will be asked to give feedback on their experience of the behaviour culture to support the evaluation, improvement and implementation of the behaviour policy.

Extra support and induction will be provided for pupils who are mid-phase arrivals.

School Systems

To ensure behaviour is embedded within our school culture, we focus on a range of areas to develop consistency throughout. We know that if our culture and learning environment is right for our pupils, we can minimise behavioural incidents and ensure Willow is a calm and safe place to be. The way in which this is approached and embedded is outlined below:

Knowing and understanding our pupils

We know that understanding the needs of our pupils is paramount when considering behaviour within school. To ensure the best support can be in place for each individual we do the following:

- On entry, staff meet with parents/carers to develop a whole picture of the child and at this
 time begin to build their initial support plan. This includes: likes and dislikes, triggers and
 support strategies.
- Within two weeks of starting, teachers complete our Holistic Pupil Assessment (HPA) which gives a profile overview focusing on the whole child.
- The HPA informs our individualised pupil trails, which allows us to pinpoint specific areas of focus for each child and targeted support is put in place.
- Our occupational therapist works alongside each child to create a sensory profile. This details specific strategies to support regulation.
- All pupils are taught Zones of Regulation using colour and have tailored activities which link to each emotion.
- EHCPs are read by all staff to understand each pupil's needs, ensure the necessary provision is in place and break targets into smaller steps.

Our Behaviour Curriculum

Pupil Transition

When children join Willow, our behaviour system is shared. This is done in a tailored and appropriate way using Widgits (picture cards) and practical demonstrations where possible. Where needed, this is revisited throughout the year.

Vocabulary Audit

We acknowledge that our pupils will have come from different settings where a range of differing vocabulary is used. Therefore, a simple vocabulary audit takes place with each pupil to ensure the key behavioural words used at Willow. At this time, related Widgit cards are shown to support understanding through dual coding. Our behaviour terms and vocabulary are kept to a minimum to ensure consistency and understanding for all.

Weekly Assemblies

Our weekly assemblies include three sessions focused around supporting behaviour and developing the whole child:

- Celebrating Me: Sharing successes, awards and stories from home
- Behaviour Curriculum: Practical opportunities to model and learn key skills in achievable steps (see Appendix 1)
- Jazzy Jiggle: Led by our occupational therapist to support regulation and strategies

Classroom Management Strategies

Widgits

Widgits provide a visual aid for pupils. They can help develop understanding but also convey a message without words. We understand than when a pupil is dysregulated, communicating through words may be challenging and therefore Widgits provide a consistent and pictorial alternative.









Routines

Consistent routines support our pupils to understand expectations, manage anxiety, mentally and physically prepare themselves for their day. This allows them to learn how to self-regulate, engage with learning/activities and manage their behaviours positively. This is done embedded through:

- Explicitly teaching routines
- The use of social stories
- Ensuring consistency of approach and routine for all staff member
- Our behaviour curriculum

- Modelled routines
- Widgits outlining routine

Staff also consider how they support learners to adapt to changes to routines and how they prepare them for changes, as this is an important life skill. Changes to routines are shared, wherever possible, in advance and using Widgits to allow our pupils to learn that changes can be managed in a positive manner.

Communication and Social Interaction Difficulties

Most of our learners need support in developing their communication, social interaction skills and social imagination skills (to cope with changes to familiar routines) to develop effective self-regulation skills that enable them to positively manage their behaviour throughout their school day. Behaviour that challenges is often the result of a breakdown in communication. To support this, we use the following strategies:

- The use of Widgits on staff and visitor lanyards
- Consistent language used by all
- Consistent scripts and phrases used by all
- Allowing time for pupils to process information
- Zones of regulation to enable pupils to communication emotion through colour
- Providing clear choices
- Opportunities to respond using physical responses (such as, a tap)

Sensory Processing Needs

Sensory processing difficulties can impact on our learners' ability to self-regulate and manage their behaviour. Sensory processing is the ability to register, discriminate, adapt and respond appropriately, both physically and emotionally to sensory input from the environment. To support this as a school we:

- Ensure our learning environments are themed appropriately
- Provide calm and nurturing environments
- Embed sensory breaks within the school day
- Provide calm, safe spaces for pupils (The Cave and The Barrell)
- Provide sensory equipment for individual pupil needs
- Use visual timetables
- Teach learners to recognise when they are becoming dysregulated
- Use zones of regulation
- Use Widgits to support communication
- Work closely with our sensory occupational therapist, who is in weekly
- Produce and use a tailored sensory profile for each pupils

Understanding Self-injurious Behaviour

Self-injurious behaviour is when a pupil physically harms themselves. It's sometimes called self-harm. This might be head banging on floors, walls or other surfaces, hand or arm biting, hair pulling, eye

gouging, face or head slapping, skin picking, scratching or pinching, forceful head shaking. The pupil may have no other way of telling us their needs, wants and feelings. When it happens staff should work collaboratively with the pupil, their parents or carers and other professionals to try to find ways to prevent or replace this behaviour:

- Respond quickly and consistently
- Keep response low key and limit all forms of communication
- Reduce demands (the task may be too difficult or overwhelming)
- Re-direct the learner so they engage with something else. This may include given a choice of task or location (this could be using Widgits)
- Remove any physical or sensory discomforts or distractions (this may link to their sensory profile)
- Use soft/light physical support if required
- Provide safe alternatives or a barrier (such as a cushion or a suitable item to bite)
- If there is a serious risk of harm and as a last resort, physical restraint may need to be used

Targeted Approaches

Consistent Language

To provide consistency, all staff (including visitors) use our agreed language and scripts with pupils. This helps our pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, reflect and know the routine of what happens next. We actively encourage pupils to choose the right thing to do and, where appropriate, explain the consequences of their choices, both positive and negative.

We use a restorative and reflect approach with pupils which focuses on Past, Present and Progress. The memorable phrase provides structure and consistency for pupils and staff. When a pupil appears dysregulated or showing signs of heightened emotions, the following script is used:

"I can see that you are feeling..."

Past: "Would you like to show me/tell me what happened?"

Present: "How are you feeling now?"

Progress: "What would help you next time?"

This structure enables pupils to know what is coming next and at times, they may even begin to reflect and prepare their own responses.

Past: Enables pupils to reflect, explain and share their side of the story.

Present: Helps pupils identify their emotion linking to zones of regulation. Our occupational therapist works with each pupil to understand what support is needed in each zone and develop independence to regulate themselves.

Progress: Enables pupils to move forward, be reflective and apply known support strategies in the future.

When a pupil is finding it difficult to engage in learning the following script and options are given:

"How could you complete this?" (Widget cards given)

"Where would you like to complete this?" (Widgits cards given)

We understand that sensory factors may be impacting work and therefore, we look to remove these and enable pupils to complete their task in a way tailored to them.

Consistent Approach

To allow for a consistent approach to managing challenging behaviour, staff at Willow school follow 5 clear steps:

- 1) The member of staff will give the pupil a direct and clear instruction, using the pupils name within the instruction to gain their attention.
- 2) The pupil will be given time to process the information. After which, a repeated clear instruction will be given, reinforcing the positive choices being made by their peers. Pupils are encouraged to 'use their words' or provided Widgit cards (if appropriate).
- 3) The pupil will be given a choice by the member of staff to support them in making the right decisions, e.g. a change of face or change of environment.
- 4) If the pupil continues to refuse to follow the instruction, a consequence (sanction) will be given, which may include the use of reasonable force to direct the pupil to a new environment.
- 5) Following the event, the pupil and member of staff will take part in a 'repair and reflect' conversation, outlining the reasons for the consequences and strategies which can be put in place to support the pupil in similar future events.

Consequences (Rewards)

At Willow school, we frame our behaviour language in a positive manner and use both intrinsic and extrinsic rewards as celebration. This is crucial for fostering motivation, promoting positive behaviour, and nurturing a healthy learning environment.

GAIN Tokens:

Pupils are able to achieve 'GAIN tokens', given out at the discretion of staff members, as a reward for positive behaviour. These are displayed around school for pupils to make visual links (Appendix 2) Each token represents a school value:

- Grow: The growth in personal character, making strong links to our behaviour curriculum.
- Achieve: Displays of academic achievement, including achieving a personal best in lessons.
- Inspire: Showing inspirational behaviour and being a positive role model for others.
- Nurture: Showing kindness and compassion for others, looking after both people and our school environment.

Tokens are accumulated into an individual 'prize pot' for the pupils, and they are able to cash in their tokens for prizes, which are displayed in school. Once a pupil cashes in their tokens, they are

presented with their prize, along with a personalised certificate, during the weekly 'Celebrating Me' assembly.

Other opportunities for recognition:

In addition to GAIN tokens, all teachers are expected to provide positive verbal feedback, where appropriate, and may choose to give pupils stickers for Wow moments.

Consequences (Sanctions)

In events where pupils have not followed the values of our school, opportunities to repair and reflect will be given during GAIN time, at the end of the school day.

Examples may include, but not restricted to: Time to complete learning goals not achieved during lesson time; opportunities for restorative practice; Working with the child to develop strategies which could be implemented in the future.

Recording and Monitoring

All significant behaviour events where rewards or sanctions are administered are recorded on BromCom, as either a 'positive behaviour event', 'negative behaviour event' or 'physical intervention'.

The Senior leadership team will monitor the use of consequences to ensure that they operate with due regard to equal opportunities and anti-discrimination.

Learners with Exceptional Behavioural Needs (External Agencies)

The majority of learners at Willow School will respond positively when within these guidelines but some of our learners need additional support to learn to self-regulate and manage their behaviour in a positive manner. We do this by:

- Working in line with this policy
- Putting in additional support, tailored to the specific needs of each learner
- Observations in a range of contexts
- Working closely with our occupational therapist to provide tailored plans
- Medical investigations to ensure that the pupil is not in pain or unwell
- Making the routines/strategies more detailed
- Drawing up a Risk Assessment and Positive Behaviour Support Plan detailing action to be taken when identified behaviour occurs. This is shared with the pupil, parent and other staff/professionals working with the learner
- Drawing on additional resources from beyond the school, e.g. CAMHS, EP support, Children & Young People with Disabilities Service (Social Care) and medical specialists
- Following the Behaviour Ladder of Intervention
- Parental and family support to implement changes in strategies

Some pupils need very specific and detailed planning, which could include a shortened day, off-site education or home-based learning. When significant adaptations are made to a pupil's school day, we always plan jointly with the parents and carers, the Local Education Authority and external agencies.

On-Going Support

CPD

CPD takes place throughout the year and is an on-going process for all staff. We use National College and Enable to provide training for staff, as well as external providers.

Each week, our sensory occupational therapist is in school and works alongside pupils, staff and families to provide support and strategies which can be used.

Monitoring

Behaviour is monitored regularly through our termly monitoring schedule. This takes place through observations, surveys and regularly reviewing any entries on BromCom. This enables us to establish any patterns and trends and respond accordingly, through changes, external support or CPD.

Use of Physical Intervention

Please Read in conjunction with the 'Use of Reasonable Force Policy'.

As a school, we adopt a nurturing and pupil-centred approach for dealing with pupils who display challenging behaviour resulting in crisis situations.

Use of any means of physical intervention should be the last resort, and in the majority of situations, the employment of personal de-escalation and diffusion strategies are the most appropriate and effective method for dealing with events which might result in a threat to the health and safety of an individual. Physical intervention should be a last resort to be used when all other de-escalation strategies have been tried and failed.

Any member of staff who works at Willow school has the authority to use force as is reasonable in the circumstances to prevent a pupil from doing, or continuing to do, any of the following:

- Committing any police offence
- Causing personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the student him/ herself)
- Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school or among students receiving education at the school, whether a teaching session or otherwise.

When use of restrictive practice is required, staff are trained in using 'Team Teach' practices.

Use of appropriate contingent touch is used frequently as a behaviour approach within Willow school, e.g. a pat on the should in a public place, in the appropriate context.

Events including the use of physical intervention (reasonable force or restrictive practice) are recorded on BromCom, stating the antecedents, description of behaviours witnessed, de-escalation strategies employed, description of physical intervention used and the outcome of the behaviour event.

The Senior leadership team will monitor the situation to ensure that the chance of this being repeated is minimal and consider further longer-term solutions are planned to prevent a reoccurrence.

Appendix 1: Behaviour curriculum

Term 1		
Week 1 Week 2	Getting to know our school Walking outside of school	 Tour of the school Use of each room Expectations – fire door etc. Roads and paths Partners
Week 3	How to safely use the stairs	 Listening to adult instructions Keep to the left Walking not running Single file With an adult or ask an adult
Week 4	What do we do if we need some time out?	 Places to go – The Cave, The Barrel Tell an adult – words or Widgits What helps you feel better?
Week 5	How do we behave at lunch time when eating?	 Polite manners Rubbish in bin Only eating at the table and not walking around Not talking with mouth full Picking up food that you drop
Week 6	How do we tidy up?	 When we use something we put it away where we found it Choose it, use it, put it away
Week 7	An opportunity to revisit any areas in may have arisen throughout the ter	f needed or to allow for a new area of focus which m.
	Te	erm 2
Week 1	How do we all feel safe?	 Listening Following instructions Walking around school sensibly How we use equipment Kind hands and feet
Week 2	Road safety	Stop, look and listenDifferent road crossingsUse of paths

Week 3	How do you use a knife and fork?	How to hold correctlyHow to use each item
Week 4	How do you share with others?	 Not expecting someone to give something up just because you need or want it Asking politely if you can use something Coming to an agreement
Week 5	How do you play with others?	 Discuss script of asking if you'd like to play Explaining or modelling the game Helping someone feel included (not being bossy) Coming to an agreement together
Week 6	How do you say sorry?	 When do we need to say sorry and why is it important? Body language and tone when saying sorry Explaining you will not do it again Showing you understand the mistake
Week 7	How do you ask someone to stop doing something?	 Politely and firmly If you can, explain what you want to change and why Explain the impact on you What to do if this doesn't work
Week 8	An opportunity to revisit any areas in may have arisen throughout the ten	f needed or to allow for a new area of focus which m.
	Te	rm 3
Week 1	What is a new year's resolution?	 Introduce resolutions and share ideas Reflect on last year Set a resolution for this year
Week 2	How should you walk along the corridors?	 Walking on the left Single file and quietly Not jumping or rushing Leaving space between you and the person in front
Week 3	How do you introduce yourself?	Hello. My name is and I'm in class. What's your name?

		 Smiling and looking at the individual Why is it important to introduce ourselves? Who should we introduce ourselves to (visitors etc.)?
Week 4	How do you ask to go to the toilet?	 Going to the toilet at break and lunchtime Where possible, asking at the right time (not shouting out) Asking in a full sentence and using please Not disrupting others
Week 5	How do you wash your hands?	 Warm water and soap 30 seconds Rinse Dry hands Why and when do we need to wash our hands?
Week 6		if needed or to allow for a new area of focus which
	may have arisen throughout the te	
		erm 4
Week 1	What do you do if someone doesn't want the same as you?	 How do we disagree politely? Do we always have to agree? Understanding different views and
		 opinions Listening to others and accepting that we cannot always agree Moving on
Week 2	How do we show respect to property?	 Listening to others and accepting that we cannot always agree

Week 4 Week 5	How do you respond to a greeting/greet someone? How and when to say excuse	 Discuss who we might greet (staff, friends, visitors) Listen out for a greeting Stopping and responding Giving a greeting back Confidence to say hello and politeness Share examples of when we would need
	me/how to interrupt?	 to do this Waiting for an acknowledgement Saying it politely Knocking on doors to rooms Going in and waiting for a natural pause (model what this might look like)
Week 6	may have arisen throughout the teri	
	Te	rm 5
Week 1	What is respect?	 Listening to each other Following instructions Fairness Looking after items
Week 2	How to deal with conflict?	 What is conflict? When and how to deal with a situation yourself Knowing when to get support How to find and speak to staff
Week 3	How do you use the toilet?	 Door shut (locked if wanted) Use of toilet seat and paper How to flush What to do if you need help? Wash hands
Week 4	How do you say please and thank you?	 Why are manners important? When do we say please and thank you? What to do if someone isn't polite back
Week 5	An opportunity to revisit any areas if needed or to allow for a new area of focus which may have arisen throughout the term.	
Term 6		

Week 1	How to be honest/admit you are	Why is honesty important?
	wrong?	 Impact of not telling the truth? Understanding that we all make mistakes Knowing when you are wrong and accepting it Understanding the positives in admitting you are wrong
Week 2	How should you behave on a school trip?	 Representing Willow Being seen by the public Being a good role model Staying safe Asking for help
Week 3	How to show good sporting behaviour?	 Understanding there can only be one winner Having a go Congratulating the winner Not being upset if you don't win Accepting that we all have different talents and we shine at different times
Week 4	How do you ask people to be quiet politely?	 Understanding that loudness can impact others When should we use a quieter voice How and when should we ask someone to be quieter What to do if things don't improve
Week 5	How can you be helpful?	 Know when to offer support How to be helpful at home and school The importance of doing things for others
Week 6	How to hold a door open?	 How to check to see if you need to hold a door open How long to wait for someone How many children to open the door for Saying thank you if someone opens the door for you
Week 7	How to stay calm?	 When might we feel angry or worried? What does it feel like? Where in school can we go? Where at home?

			Equipment that helpsHow can you share your feelings with an adult?
\	Week 8	An opportunity to revisit any areas if needed or to allow for a new area of focus which may have arisen throughout the term.	

Appendix 2: Tokens

