

Governing Body Statement of Behaviour Principles



The Cottesloe School

Policy Type:	Statutory
Reviewed by:	Mrs C Strik (Chair of Governors) Mr S Jones (Headteacher)
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Approved by:	Resources and People Committee - May 2026
Next review:	Summer Term 2027

In accordance with the Department for Education's requirements, the Governing Body of The Cottesloe School is committed to publishing and reviewing a written statement of general principles to guide the Headteacher in promoting good behaviour and discipline among students. This document is informed by the DfE publication "Behaviour and Discipline in Schools – Guidance for Governing Bodies" (July 2013).

This is a statement of principles, not practice. The practical implementation of these principles is the responsibility of the Headteacher and is reflected in the school's range of policies, including the Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Our Core Beliefs

The Governing Body believes that high standards of behaviour are fundamental to a successful school environment. Positive behaviour enables students to thrive both academically and personally, ensuring they can make the most of every opportunity.

At The Cottesloe School, we value every individual as capable of growth, change, and achievement. Our ethos is underpinned by Healthy Relationships and the 6Cs (Cooperation, Collaboration, Creative Thinking, Coaching, Challenge and Critical Thinking), which should be reflected in the conduct of all members of the school community.

We hold high expectations for all students, supporting their development as respectful, responsible citizens who contribute positively to their communities.

Guiding Principles

- Safety and Wellbeing

Every student, staff member, and visitor has the right to feel safe and respected at all times.

- Inclusion and Equality

The Cottesloe School is an inclusive environment, free from discrimination of any kind. Measures to promote equality and protect students are detailed in our Behaviour and Equality Policies.

- Alignment with Vision and Values

All school policies, including those relating to behaviour, should align with and reflect the school's mission and vision statements.

- Clarity and Consistency

Behaviour expectations should be clearly communicated through the Behaviour Policy and displayed throughout the school. These expectations must be consistently enforced by all staff.

- Recognition and Encouragement

The Governors encourage a wide range of rewards to recognise and reinforce positive behaviour. These should be applied fairly and consistently.

- Fairness in Sanctions

Sanctions for unacceptable behaviour should be clearly defined, understood by all, and applied fairly, proportionately, and consistently. Individual circumstances, including SEND, disability, or vulnerability, should always be considered, and appropriate support should be provided where needed.

- Parental Partnership

We expect a strong partnership between the school and parents/carers in maintaining a positive learning environment.

- Zero Tolerance for Abuse

The Governors affirm that any form of violence, threatening behaviour, or abuse - whether from students or parents/carers - towards staff will not be tolerated.

- Use of Reasonable Force

The Behaviour Policy should include clear guidance on the appropriate and lawful use of reasonable force by staff.

- Off-Site Behaviour

The school's approach to addressing incidents of non-criminal misbehaviour or bullying that occurs off-site—and are witnessed by staff or reported to the school—should be clearly outlined within the Behaviour Policy.

This statement will be reviewed regularly by the Governing Body to ensure it remains aligned with current legislation and the evolving needs of the school community.