

Student Behaviour Policy (previously Discipline and Rewards Policy)

Introduction

The staff and parents/guardians of students at Bodmin College believe that good behaviour and discipline are essential ingredients that support the aims and values of the College. The aim of this policy is to: promote good behaviour, self-discipline and respect; prevent bullying (see anti bullying policy); ensure students complete assigned work, and; regulate the conduct of students.

The Board of Trustees is charged with the duty to set the framework of the College's policy by providing a written statement of general principles relating to discipline, taking into account the needs of all students. Before providing the statement below the Board of Trustees has consulted students, parents and staff at the College.

The Board of Trustees expect the College to be a place where all individuals are respected and their individuality valued, where students are encouraged to achieve, where self-discipline is promoted and good behaviour is the norm.

Teachers at Bodmin College may (in accordance with related policies and procedures) discipline a student for:

- any misbehaviour when the child is:
 - taking part in any college-organised or college-related activity or
 - travelling to or from college or
 - wearing college uniform or
 - in some other way identifiable as a student at the college
- or misbehaviour at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, that:
 - could have repercussions for the orderly running of the college or
 - poses a threat to another student or member of the public or
 - could adversely affect the reputation of the college.

The Principal will ensure that in order to promote a **consistent approach to behaviour management** staff will:

- promote self-discipline and proper regard for authority among students;
- encourage good behaviour and respect for others, and prevent all forms of bullying among students;
- ensure students standards of behaviour is acceptable;
- regulate students' conduct, and;
- impose sanctions in a fair, consistent manner and professional manner

Classroom Management - All staff are expected to promote self-discipline amongst students and to deal appropriately with any unacceptable behaviour. Staff acceptance and tolerance of students' behaviour in class may depend on the nature of the class and content of the lesson, but behaviour which does not allow constructive teaching and learning is totally unacceptable and all staff must ensure that such behaviour is not tolerated and that they apply all sanctions consistently and fairly.

Rewards and Sanctions - The Principal will ensure that consistent, fair and appropriate systems of reward and sanction are developed and implemented within the College.

Behaviour Strategies and the teaching of good behaviour/staff development and support - All staff are expected to encourage good behaviour and respect for others in students, and to apply all

sanctions fairly and consistently. Well planned, interesting and demanding lessons make a major contribution to good discipline. All new staff will, through induction, receive advice and support with regard to Behaviour Management and, where identified, strategies will form part of the Colleges programme of continuing professional development (CPD). In addition to the range of classroom strategies employed by individual staff and departmental procedures a whole College system for staff needing support with the management of an individual and/or class is operational.

Student Support Systems - Alongside a positive and supportive climate for learning, the College recognises the value of pastoral and special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) provision in ensuring positive behaviour for learning. The college prides itself on both its positive culture and the quality and range of programmes and techniques embedded for supporting behaviour management. These include: a pastoral system that includes designated head of year (HoY), assistant head of year, tutor led by our Vice Principal (Pastoral, Safeguarding and Behaviour); Designated Safeguarding and Deputy Safeguarding Leads; personalised SEND provision; College Counsellors and a range of Student Support Workers; emotional and behavioural support interventions etc. From Year 7 to Year 10, the College endeavours to use the same tutor to ensure a consistency of approach based on an excellent knowledge of the young person and their context. In Year 11, students are supported by a team of tutors that specialise in guiding student through their final year of 11-16 education including the transition to post-16.

Liaison with Parents/carers and External Agencies - Parents are kept informed of achievements and behaviours through our parent app, telephone calls and parent communication. and external agencies will be involved in discipline cases as appropriate as we aim to support our young people in a preventative and proactive manner building on best practice and using support as appropriate. Parents are also encouraged to support good behaviour and positive habits in their children through the College's 'Home-College Agreement' and in meetings with staff/external agencies. We keep parents/carers up to date through phone calls, meeting and the parent app.

Home College Agreement –our Home College Agreement outlines the responsibilities of the parent/carer and the college; including those responsibilities relating to behaviour and attendance. This agreement is available on the college website as well as being contained in student's planners, parent information booklet. It is operational throughout the period of time students are enrolled at the College.

Managing Student Transition - All new students are attached to a group with a dedicated tutor who plays an important role in ensuring well-being. Where students require additional support this is provided through a range of support strategies including, for example, the HoY, special educational needs coordinator (SENDCO), English as an additional language (EAL) coordinator, Student support worker, school counsellor etc.

Where students are found, without reasonable doubt, to have made **malicious accusations against college staff**: parents/carers will be informed; the incident logged, and; appropriate action taken.

SEND - Where the misbehaviour of children is related to SEND issues reasonable adjustments will be made: These will include ensuring that:

- staff have had training in the nature of SEND, and how they should treat children with SEND;
- staff are aware of any children with SEND;
- where appropriate, help is sought from the LA to enable reasonable adjustments to be made;
- resources are committed to assist in making reasonable adjustments
- SEND will also be taken into consideration when having to issue sanctions

Behaviour and Sanctions

Bodmin College operates a clear sanctions system for those who do not comply with this policy and/or the college rules. Our systems for sanctions and reward are in accordance with [Behaviour and Discipline in Schools - A guide for headteachers and school staff final draft.docx \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) and the parameters of this policy

This policy takes cognisance of the wider DfE documentation including:
[Behaviour and discipline in schools: guide for governing bodies - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
[Mental health and behaviour in schools \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)
[Searching, screening and confiscation at school - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
[Use of reasonable force in schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
[School suspensions and permanent exclusions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

A summary of specifically important aspects of these documents is referred to below:

Discipline in Colleges

- Teachers have **statutory authority** to discipline students whose behaviour is unacceptable, who break the college rules or who fail to follow a reasonable instruction
- The power also applies to **all paid staff** (unless the principal says otherwise) with responsibility for students
- Teachers can discipline students at any time the student is **in college or elsewhere** under the charge of a teacher, including on **college visits**.
- Teachers can also discipline students for **misbehaviour outside college**.
- Teachers have a specific **legal power to impose detention** outside college hours.
- Teachers can **confiscate** students' property.

Punishing Poor Behaviour

- Teachers can discipline students whose conduct falls below the standard which could reasonably be expected of them. This means that if a student misbehaves, breaks a college rule or fails to follow a reasonable instruction the teacher can impose a reasonable and proportionate punishment.
- The Principal may limit the power to apply particular punishments (at Bodmin College the authority to use Suspensions is delegated to the School leadership team (SLT), with the authority to use INTEX delegated to the SLT, HoY and Assistant HoY, to certain staff and/or extend the power to discipline to adult volunteers, for example to parents who have volunteered to help on a college trip.
- Corporal punishment is illegal in all circumstances.
- Teachers at Bodmin College should consider whether the behaviour under review gives cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm. Where this may be the case, college staff should follow the colleges' safeguarding policy. They should also consider whether continuing disruptive behaviour might be the result of unmet educational or other needs. At this point, the college should consider whether a multi-agency assessment is necessary.

Students' Conduct Outside The College Gates

- Teachers have a statutory power to discipline students 'to such an extent that is reasonable' for misbehaving outside of the college premises ('reasonable' is left to the professional opinion of senior staff at the College who utilise the 'introduction' section of this policy as a guide)

Detention

- Parental consent is not required for detentions and detentions can, in line with DfE guidance, be completed outside of normal college hours.
- Teachers must act reasonably when imposing a detention as with any disciplinary penalty. In addition, when deciding the timing, the teacher should consider whether suitable travel arrangements can be made by the parent for the student.
- With lunchtime detentions, teachers at Bodmin College should allow reasonable time for the student to eat, drink and use the toilet.

Confiscation of Inappropriate Items

Members of the SLT are permitted to search students with/without consent for any:

- **Prohibited items** including: knives or weapons; alcohol; illegal drugs and; stolen items.
- **Inappropriate items** including: tobacco and cigarette papers; fireworks; pornographic images; any article that College staff reasonably suspect has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence/cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person [including the student themselves]), **or**;
- **Any item banned by the College rules** and which has been identified in the rules as an item that may be searched for

The **general power to discipline (legal provision)** enables a staff to confiscate, retain or dispose of a student's property as a punishment and protects them from liability for damage to, or loss of, any confiscated items. Weapons, knives, illegal drugs and extreme of child pornography must always be referred to a member of the SLT who will hand items over to the Police. All other confiscated items should be returned to the student and/or parent at the earliest convenience. Where items are not covered by this policy a member of the SLT will determine the action to be taken.

Power to use Reasonable Force

Staff at Bodmin College follow the legal provisions on college discipline with regard to the power to use reasonable force to prevent students committing an offence, injuring themselves or others, or damaging property, and to maintain good order and discipline in the classroom. Separate advice is available in [Use of reasonable force in schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)