

Behaviour Policy

Aims

- To create an environment where students feel safe, secure and respected
- To help students understand and manage their own behaviour in ways that are acceptable in the wider society in which they live
- To enable students to develop a sense of self-worth and tolerance and respect for others
- To create a consistent and positive approach to behaviour management throughout the college

Young people with Autism may display challenging behaviour at times. Behaviour can impact on the quality of a student's life and can prevent access to learning. Careful behaviour management can prevent problems developing and has a very high priority at The Park College.

All staff receive regular training in behaviour management and are supported by the leadership team and other specialists.

Understanding Behaviour

Staff analyse why behaviours might be occurring. We understand the behaviour of someone with autism will almost always be about meeting his or her needs.

When monitoring behaviour we record:

- Triggers
- Situation / Antecedents
- Frequency
- Time / place
- Duration
- Severity
- What happened afterwards

ABC charts for individual students are used as appropriate. Where some significant or potentially dangerous behaviour has occurred the staff will complete an incident form and report the incident to the senior management team (SMT). The SMT provide support and recommendations on strategies to put in place in response to any incidents.

Modifying behaviour

Behaviour Management Plans (BMP) are used to support students to manage their own behaviour. We work directly with the student to develop the plan. When necessary we work directly with parents/carers.

When developing a BMP we include

- Communication strategies
- The student's strengths
- Favourite activities and interests
- Targeted Behaviour
- Possible Antecedents (settings / triggers)
- Preventative measures

- Response to behaviour
- Method of monitoring
- Review Date

Teaching and valuing positive behaviour

We use a range of positive strategies in behaviour management planning including:

- teaching negotiation skills
- changing and adapting the environment
- increasing structure
- distraction and replacement of a more appropriate behaviour
- planned ignoring
- time out
- token economies / reward charts
- social stories
- contracts

We reinforce desired behaviour in ways which motivate individual students. In addition to the above strategies we treat students in the following ways in order to help them to achieve their best:

- treat students with patience and respect
- always remember that the students have a disability and think differently
- joke with them only when we can be sure that they will understand
- shouting and sarcasm by staff are never permitted
- use consistent strategies and language
- differentiate the level of language used with individual students
- frequent use praise
- avoid negative words and reinforce positives
- allow supervised time out if students are stressed

Staff complete de-escalation and physical intervention training (Team Teach) so they can support students safely and effectively if necessary.

Exclusions

We take responsibility for the behaviour of the students at the college. We do not use exclusion as a tool for expecting parents/carers to modify behaviour. We work closely with parents and carers and other professionals if we are not able to meet a pupil's needs and a change of setting might be required. Working with families We work closely with parents and carers in developing positive behaviour. Pupils will often behave very differently in different environments and parents are never be made to feel that the behaviour of their child during school time is their responsibility. Policy Review This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and Deputy Head and shared with all staff