

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School and Community Nursery

Governors' Statement of Principles

This statement of principles has been developed in consultation with the Headteacher and staff of the school, and the students and their parents. Its purpose is to give guidance to the Headteacher in drawing up the Behaviour and Discipline Policy, by stating the principles which Governors expect to be followed. The Behaviour and Discipline Policy is seen by the Governing Body as a key way that they can discharge their duty of care to pupils and employees, promote teaching and learning and high standards of attainment, and preserve the excellent reputation of the school.

St Patrick's is a highly disciplined community. It has very high expectations of pupils. It will aim to keep in mind the school's Catholic foundation and principles of forgiveness, whilst still challenging students to recognise the need for due responsibility for their actions. The school will undertake to treat pupils fairly, and allow for their individual circumstance at the same time as looking to develop all students to show the highest standards of behaviour and personal responsibility. We expect pupils to behave well and respect the rules set down by the Headteacher in the school Behaviour and Discipline Policy. We believe this is the best way to uphold the good name of the school and to support parents in their challenge of bringing up their children well.

The school will undertake to promote positive conduct and achievement of all kinds, through all manner of means, formal and informal. However, sanctions will also be necessary. They will be used to demonstrate that poor behaviour is not acceptable; to express the disapproval of the school community; and to deter other pupils from similar behaviour. It is recognised that the application of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and the individual child and the Headteacher and staff are expected to use their discretion in their use. An important feature of the school's work will be to address the needs of vulnerable pupils, and, where possible, offer appropriate support according to their needs. The Governors expect any policy or actions to be in accordance with their responsibilities under equality legislation. The Behaviour and Discipline Policy must ensure that pupils who are disabled are not placed at a substantial disadvantage, and its impact on pupils according to gender and race must be periodically assessed to ensure fairness.

This Statement of Principles will be reviewed every three years. The Behaviour and Discipline Policy, which the Headteacher develops in order to give physical form to these principles, is formally shared with Governors every two years.