

PRENTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

BEHAVIOUR POLICY: THE WAY WE DO THINGS HERE.

Owned By:	O &P
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1 AIMS

This policy aims to:

- Create a positive culture that promotes excellent behaviour, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to learn in a calm, safe and supportive environment.
- Establish a whole-school approach to maintaining high standards of behaviour that reflect the values of the school.
- Outline the expectations and consequences of behaviour.
- Provide a consistent approach to behaviour management that is applied equally to all students.
- Define what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour, including bullying and discrimination.

2 LEGISLATION, STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND STATUTORY GUIDANCE

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

- [Behaviour and discipline in schools: advice for headteachers and school staff, 2016](#)
- [Behaviour in schools: advice for headteachers and school staff 2022](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools 2022](#)
- [The Equality Act 2010](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)
- [Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and student referral units in England, including student movement - 2026](#)
- [Restrictive interventions, including the use of reasonable force, in schools](#)
- [Supporting students with medical conditions at school](#)
- [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people](#)

It is also based on the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#).

In addition, this policy is based on:

- 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
- [DfE guidance](#) explaining that academies should publish their behaviour policy and anti-bullying strategy

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3 DEFINITIONS

Misbehaviour is defined as:

- Disruption in lessons, in corridors between lessons, and at break and lunchtimes
- Non-completion of classwork or homework
- Poor attitude
- Defiance
- Incorrect uniform

Serious misbehaviour is defined as:

- Repeated breaches of the school rules, values and expectations;
- Foul and abusive language directed at staff or fellow students;
- Persistent repetition of minor misbehaviour over a period of time and failure or refusal to respond to interventions;
- Premeditated or disproportionate violence towards another child or adult;

- Behaviour that endangers the safety of others;
- Intimidating others;
- False allegations against staff;
- Any form of child-on-child abuse, including but may not be limited to:
 - Bullying
 - Abuse in intimate personal relationships between children
 - Physical abuse
 - Sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration, or sexual assault (intentional sexual touching without consent)
 - Sexual harassment, meaning unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, such as:
 - Sexual comments
 - Sexual jokes or taunting
 - Physical behaviour like interfering with clothes
 - Online sexual harassment, such as unwanted sexual comments and messages (including on social media), sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos, or sharing of unwanted explicit content
 - Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent
- Upskirting
- Initiation/hazing type violence and rituals
- Misogyny/misandry
- Vandalism
- Theft
- Fighting
- Smoking / vaping
- Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory behaviour
- Any behaviour deemed inappropriate by the Headteacher or that does not meet the values of our school or is not in the spirit of our school ethos and values
- Challenging the authority of the school
- Failure to attend SLT detention or Internal Exclusion
- Persistently disrupting the learning of others
- Acting in a manner which causes damage to the school and its students' reputation including the use of social media platforms or misuse of technology
- Possession, supply or use of any prohibited items. These may include:
 - Mobile phones
 - Knives or weapons
 - Alcohol
 - Illegal drugs
 - Stolen items
 - Tobacco and cigarette papers
 - Vape / vape refills
 - Fireworks
 - 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 student)

4 THE PROCESS FOLLOWING THE REPORTING OF A SERIOUS OFFENCE:

- Gathering of evidence: statements taken from those involved (staff, students and others as relevant. Statements are also collected from witnesses as appropriate);
- Evidence collected reviewed by Student Support, Year Leader, Head of Student Services or member of the SLT as appropriate;
- A course of action is recommended and discussed with the Headteacher.
- Any Fixed Term Suspension is at the discretion of the Headteacher. In the Headteacher's absence, the Assistant Headteacher can make this decision; and
- In the case of Permanent Exclusion, the Headteacher will make the decision. An independent panel of Governors will meet to review the Headteacher's decision in line with the Exclusion Policy.

5 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
- Repeated, often over a period of time
- Difficult to defend against

Bullying can include (This is not an exhaustive list):

TYPE OF BULLYING	DEFINITION
Emotional	Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
Physical	Hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another's belongings, any use of violence
Prejudice-based and discriminatory, including: • Racial • Faith-based • Gendered (sexist) • Homophobic/biphobic • Transphobic • Disability-based • Social economic circumstances	Taunts, gestures, graffiti or physical abuse focused on a particular characteristic (e.g. gender, race, sexuality)
Sexual	Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, comments about sexual reputation or performance, sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos (including pseudo-images, which are computer-generated images that otherwise appear to be a photograph or video), or inappropriate touching
Direct or indirect verbal	Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing

TYPE OF BULLYING	DEFINITION
Cyber-bullying	Bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites or via images, audio, video, or written content generated by artificial intelligence (AI)

Details of our school's approach to preventing and addressing bullying are set out in our anti-bullying strategy.

6 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The governing board

The governing board is responsible for monitoring this behaviour policy's effectiveness and holding the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

The Headteacher

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 interventions are applied consistently to all groups of students.
- 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 students 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 students both consequences and support when necessary.
- Ensuring that the data from the behaviour log is reviewed regularly, to make sure that no groups of students are being disproportionately impacted by this policy.

Teachers and staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Creating a calm and safe environment for students.
- Establishing and maintaining clear boundaries of acceptable student behaviour.
- Implementing the behaviour policy consistently.
- Communicating the school's expectations, routines, values and standards through teaching behaviour and in every interaction with students.
- Modelling expected behaviour and positive relationships.
- Providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular students.
- Recognising hidden stressors for vulnerable students, such as young carers or looked-after children, to ensure empathetic and supportive responses to their behaviour
- Considering the impact of their own behaviour on the school culture and how they can uphold school rules and expectations.
- Using de-escalation techniques and positive relational behaviour strategies to try to minimise and prevent the need for restrictive interventions
- Recording behaviour incidents promptly.

- Challenging students to meet the school's expectations.
- The senior leadership team (SLT), Head of Student Services and Head of Learning Support will support staff in responding to behaviour incidents.

Parents and carers

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 Student Services work following misbehaviour (for example: attending reviews of specific behaviour interventions).
- Raise any concerns about the management of behaviour with the school directly, whilst 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.

All parents have access to a Arbor account, detailing their child's daily attendance, behaviour, interventions, rewards and homework.

Students

Students 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 expectations, values and routines.
- The rewards they can earn for meeting the behaviour expectations, and the consequences they will face if they don't meet these expectations.
- The Student Services support that is available to them to help them meet the behavioural expectations.

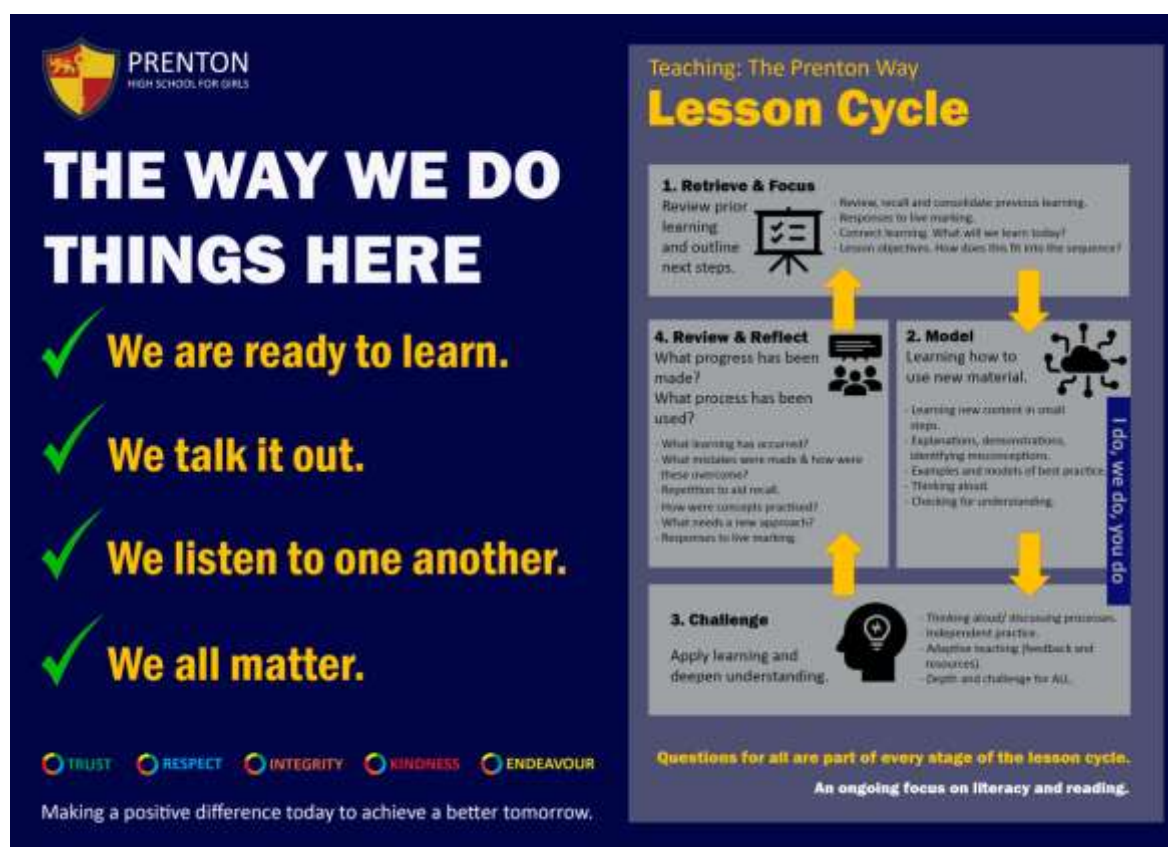
Students will be supported to meet the behaviour expectations and will be provided with repeated intervention sessions wherever appropriate.

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

Students 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 intervention will be provided for students who are mid-term arrivals.

7 SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR CURRICULUM



Students are expected to:

- Behave in an orderly and self-controlled way.
- Show respect to members of staff and each other.
- In class, make it possible for all students to learn.
- Move quietly around the school.
- Treat the school buildings and school property with respect.
- Wear the correct uniform at all times.
- Accept consequences when given.
- Refrain from behaving in a way that brings the school into disrepute, including when outside school or online.

Where appropriate and reasonable, adjustments may be made to routines within the curriculum to ensure all students can meet behavioural expectations in the curriculum.

Mobile phones

- Please see Mobile Phone Policy (<https://prentonhighschool.co.uk/school-policies/>)

8 RESPONDING TO BEHAVIOUR

Classroom management

Teaching and support staff are responsible for setting the tone and context for positive behaviour within the school using the 'Teaching the Prenton Way' ethos.

They will:

- Create and maintain a stimulating environment that encourages students to be engaged and challenged, following the Teaching the Prenton Way structure outlined above.

- Display the “Way We Do Things Here” and “Teaching the Prenton Way” information in classrooms.
- Develop a positive relationship with students, which may include:
 - Greeting students in the morning/at the start of lessons
 - Establishing clear routines
 - Communicating expectations of behaviour in ways other than verbally
 - Highlighting and promoting good behaviour
 - Concluding the day positively and starting the next day afresh
 - Having a plan for dealing with low-level disruption
 - Using positive reinforcement
 - Leading 10-minute interventions to resolve issues quickly and positively when appropriate, as outlined in The Way We Do Things Here.

Safeguarding

The school recognises that changes in behaviour may be an indicator that a student is in need of help or protection.

Specific circumstances, such as being a young carer, looked-after child, or living in a vulnerable household, can significantly affect behaviour.

We will consider whether a students’ behaviour may be linked to them suffering, or being likely to suffer, significant harm.

Where this may be the case, we will follow our child protection and safeguarding policy, and consider whether Student Services support, an early help intervention or a referral to children’s social care is appropriate.

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information.

Responding to good behaviour

When a student’s behaviour meets or goes above and beyond the expected behaviour standard, staff will recognise it with positive recognition and reward. This provides an opportunity for all staff to reinforce the school’s culture and ethos.

Positive reinforcements and rewards will be applied clearly and fairly to reinforce the routines, expectations and norms of the school’s behaviour culture.

Rewards provide public recognition of student progress and commitment to school, and help to raise students’ motivation and expectations. At Prenton High School we use the following rewards:

- Verbal praise;
- Written comment e.g. on work or in student planner;
- Arbor Rewards;
- Display of work;
- Telephone call, emails, letters or postcard sent to parents/carers;
- Public commendation e.g. in assembly or at the annual Celebration or Awards Evenings;
- Awarding of certificates e.g. in a year assembly; and
- Leadership opportunities e.g. as part of the Student Senior Leadership Team.
- Rewards are recognised in our termly House Assemblies with Bronze Awards for 50+ rewards, Silver Awards for 100+ rewards and Gold Awards for 150+ rewards. The Headteacher issues a special award to anyone with more than 200 rewards.
- End of term trips/activities are available for students who show an excellent attitude to learning and excellent attendance.

Responding to misbehaviour

When a students’s behaviour falls below the standard that can reasonably be expected of them, staff will respond in order to restore a calm and safe learning environment, and to prevent recurrence of the behaviour.

Staff will endeavour to create a predictable environment by always challenging behaviour that falls short of the standards, and by responding in a consistent, fair and proportionate manner, so students know with certainty that misbehaviour will always be addressed.

De-escalation techniques, including the use of pre-arranged scripts and phrases, can be used to help prevent further behaviour issues arising, including situations where staff may need to use a restrictive intervention. See our policy on the use of restrictive interventions for more detail on prevention and de-escalation strategies

All students will be treated equitably under the policy, with any factors that contributed to the behavioural incident identified (e.g. whether a student has specific vulnerabilities) and taken into account.

When giving behaviour sanctions, staff will also consider what support could be offered to a student to help them to meet behaviour standards in the future.

The school may use 1 or more of the following in response to unacceptable behaviour:

- Sending the student out of the class.
- A verbal reprimand and reminder of the expectations of behaviour: The Way We Do Things Here.
- Setting of written tasks such as an account of their behaviour.
- Expecting work to be completed at home, or at break or lunchtime.
- Intervention at break or lunchtime, or after school.
- Loss of privileges – for instance, the loss of a prized responsibility.
- Referring the student to a senior member of staff.
- Letter or phone call home to parents.
- Agreeing a behaviour contract.
- Putting a student 'on report'.
- Removal of the student from the classroom.
- Time in Return to Learn.
- Internal Exclusion.
- Fixed Term Suspension.
- Permanent Exclusions, in the most serious of circumstances.

Personal circumstances of the student will be taken into account when choosing sanctions and decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, but with regard to the impact on perceived fairness.

Off-site misbehaviour

Consequences may be applied where a student has misbehaved off-site when representing the school. This means misbehaviour when the student is:

- Taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity (e.g. school trips).
- Travelling to or from school.
- Wearing school uniform.
- In any other way identifiable as a student of our school.

Consequences may also be applied where a student has misbehaved off-site, at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, if the misbehaviour:

- Could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school.
- Poses a threat to another student.
- Could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

Online misbehaviour

The school can issue behaviour consequences to students for online misbehaviour when:

- It poses a threat or causes harm to another student.
- It could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school.
- It adversely affects the reputation of the school.

- The student is identifiable as a member of the school.

Consequences will only be given out on school premises or elsewhere when the student is under the lawful control of a staff member.

9 RESTRICTIVE INTERVENTIONS, INCLUDING USE OF REASONABLE FORCE

Our approach to restrictive interventions follows the [DfE's latest guidance on restrictive interventions](#).

Restrictive interventions are used to prevent, restrict, or subdue movement of the body or part of the body of a student. It describes both physical and non-physical actions aimed to restrain students in different ways.

Our staff understand that any form of force or restraint carries a risk of physical and psychological harm, so we always avoid using these measures where possible.

Reasonable force

Reasonable force covers a broad range of actions used by staff that involve a degree of physical contact to restrain students, using no more force than is needed for the least amount of time, the application of which will depend on the circumstances.

All members of staff have a legal power to use reasonable force in certain situations, to prevent a student from:

- Hurting themselves or others
- Committing a criminal offence
- Damaging property
- Causing disorder among students, in or out of lessons

Reasonable force must:

- Always be used as a last resort
- Be used in a way that maintains the safety and dignity of all concerned
- **Never** be used as a form of punishment
- **Never** involve restraining a student in a way that affects their airway, breathing or circulation, for example by covering their nose and/or mouth or applying pressure to their neck or abdomen
- **Never** be used if the student is on the ground. If a student is unintentionally held on the ground, staff should release their hold or move into a safer position as quickly as possible

When considering using reasonable force, staff should, in considering the risks, carefully recognise any specific vulnerabilities of the student, including SEND, mental health needs or medical conditions.

Please see our restrictive intervention policy for more information.

Seclusion

Seclusion is a **non-disciplinary intervention** that keeps a student confined to a place away from others and prevents them from leaving, for the safety of that student and/or others.

We only use seclusion as a safety measure when a student is experiencing high levels of emotional or behavioural dysregulation. Seclusion is **not** used as a threat or punishment and is **not** a disciplinary response to deliberate or wilful misbehaviour.

During seclusion:

- The student will be secluded in a safe place that does not feel threatening or intimidating to them, e.g. The Hub.
- The student will be supervised at all times, by at least 1 member of staff.
- As soon as the immediate risk of harm has reduced, the student will be allowed to leave.

Recording and reporting requirements

Staff have a legal duty to record and report all:

- Significant incidents involving force
- Seclusion incidents
- Restraint incidents

Please refer to our restrictive intervention policy for more information on this legal duty

10 USE OF CCTV FOOTAGE,

Prenton High School uses CCTV footage to protect against crime and to protect students, staff and members of the public when they are on school premises.

If there are any incidences of poor behaviour by students such as vandalism or bullying behaviour, or if an investigation into any matter requires further clarity, the SLT may look at recordings from CCTV to ascertain what has happened.

Any available evidence found on CCTV footage will be referred to when SLT are assessing whether or not a student should be excluded from school, internally or for a Fixed Term suspension or Permanent Exclusion. In the case of a permanent exclusion and where available, this footage will be made available to Governors, the LA and any Independent Review Panel or Police.

Due to GDPR parents/carers are unable to have access to school CCTV footage.

Please refer to the Prenton High School CCTV Policy for further information.

11 CONFISCATION AND SEARCHES,

Searching, screening and confiscation is conducted in line with the DfE's [latest guidance on searching, screening and confiscation](#).

Confiscation

Any prohibited items (listed in section 3) found in a student's possession as a result of a search will be confiscated. These items will not be returned to the student.

We will also confiscate any item that is harmful or detrimental to school discipline. These items will be returned to students after discussion with senior leaders and parents/carers, if appropriate.

Searching a student

Searches will only be carried out by a member of staff who has been authorised to do so by the Headteacher, or by the Headteacher themselves.

Subject to the exception below, the authorised member of staff carrying out the search will be of the same sex as the student, and there will be another member of staff present as a witness to the search.

An authorised member of staff of a different sex to the student can carry out a search without another member of staff as a witness if:

- The authorised member of staff carrying out the search reasonably believes there is risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the search is not carried out as a matter of urgency; **and**
- In the time available, it is not reasonably practicable for the search to be carried out by a member of staff who is the same sex as the student; **or**
- It is not reasonably practicable for the search to be carried out in the presence of another member of staff

When an authorised member of staff conducts a search without a witness, they should immediately report this to another member of staff, and make sure a written record of the search is kept.

If the authorised member of staff considers a search to be necessary, but not required urgently, they will seek the advice of the Headteacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputy) or pastoral member of staff who may have more information about the student. During this time the student will be supervised and kept away from other students.

A search can be carried out if the authorised member of staff has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the student is in possession of a prohibited item or any item identified in the school rules for which a search can be made, or if the student has agreed.

An appropriate location for the search will be found. Where possible, this will be away from other students. The search will only take place on the school premises or where the member of staff has lawful control or charge of the student, for example on a school trip.

Before carrying out a search the authorised member of staff will:

- Assess whether there is an urgent need for a search
- Assess whether not doing the search would put other students or staff at risk
- Consider whether the search would pose a safeguarding risk to the student
- Explain to the student why they are being searched
- Explain to the student what a search entails – e.g. “I will ask you to turn out your pockets and remove your scarf”
- Explain how and where the search will be carried out
- Give the student the opportunity to ask questions
- Seek the student’s co-operation

If the student refuses to agree to a search, the member of staff can give an appropriate behaviour sanction.

If they still refuse to co-operate, the member of staff will contact the Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead or member of SLT to try to determine why the student is refusing to comply.

The authorised member of staff will then decide whether to use reasonable force to search the student. This decision will be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration whether conducting the search will prevent the student harming themselves or others, damaging property or causing disorder.

The authorised member of staff can use reasonable force to search for any prohibited items identified in section 3, but not to search for items that are only identified in the school rules.

The authorised member of staff may use a metal detector to assist with the search.

An authorised member of staff may search a student’s outer clothing, pockets, possessions, desk or locker.

‘Outer clothing’ includes:

- Any item of clothing that isn't worn wholly next to the skin or immediately over underwear (e.g. a jumper or jacket being worn over a t-shirt)
- Hats, scarves, gloves, shoes or boots

Searching students’ possessions

Possessions means any items that the student has or appears to have control of, including:

- Desks
- Lockers
- Bags

A student’s possessions can be searched for any item if the student agrees to the search. If the student does not agree to the search, staff can still carry out a search for prohibited items (listed in section 3) and items identified in the school rules.

An authorised member of staff can search a student’s possessions when the student and another member of staff are present.

If there is a serious risk of harm if the search is not conducted immediately, or it is not reasonably practicable to summon another member of staff, the search can be carried out by a single authorised member of staff.

Informing the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The staff member who carried out the search should inform the DSL without delay:

- Of any incidents where the member of staff had reasonable grounds to suspect a student was in possession of a prohibited item as listed in section 3
- If they believe that a search has revealed a safeguarding risk

All searches for prohibited items (listed in section 3), including incidents where no items were found, will be recorded in the school's safeguarding system.

Informing parents/carers

Parents/carers will always be informed of any search for a prohibited item (listed in section 3). A member of staff will tell the parents/carers as soon as is reasonably practicable:

- What happened
- What was found, if anything
- What has been confiscated, if anything
- What action the school has taken, including any sanctions that have been applied to their child

Support after a search

Irrespective of whether any items are found as the result of any search, the school will consider whether the student may be suffering or likely to suffer harm and whether any specific support is needed (due to the reasons for the search, the search itself, or the outcome of the search).

If this is the case, staff will follow the school's safeguarding policy and speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). The DSL will consider whether pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate.

Strip searches

The authorised member of staff's power to search outlined above does not enable them to conduct a strip search (removing more than the outer clothing) and strip searches on school premises shall only be carried out by police officers in accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) Code C.

Before calling the police into school, staff will assess and balance the risk of a potential strip search on the student's mental and physical wellbeing and the risk of not recovering the suspected item.

Staff will consider whether introducing the potential for a strip search through police involvement is absolutely necessary, and will always ensure that other appropriate, less invasive approaches have been exhausted first.

Once the police are on school premises, the decision on whether to conduct a strip search lies solely with them. The school will advocate for the safety and wellbeing of the student(s) involved. Staff retain a duty of care to the student involved and should advocate for student wellbeing at all times.

Communication and record-keeping

Where reasonably possible and unless there is an immediate risk of harm, before the strip search takes place, staff will contact at least 1 of the student's parents/carers to inform them that the police are going to strip search the student, and ask them whether they would like to come into school to act as the student's appropriate adult. If the school can't get in touch with the parents/carers, or they aren't able to come into school to act as the appropriate adult, a member of staff can act as the appropriate adult (see below for information about the role of the appropriate adult).

The student's parents/carers will always be informed by a staff member once a strip search has taken place. The school will keep records of strip searches that have been conducted on school premises, and monitor them for any trends that emerge.

Who will be present

For any strip search that involves exposure of intimate body parts, there will be at least 2 people present other than the student, except in urgent cases where there is risk of serious harm to the student or others.

One of these must be the appropriate adult, except if:

- The student explicitly states in the presence of an appropriate adult that they do not want an appropriate adult to be present during the search, **and**
- The appropriate adult agrees

If this is the case, a record will be made of the student's decision and it will be signed by the appropriate adult.

No more than 2 people other than the student and appropriate adult will be present, except in the most exceptional circumstances.

The appropriate adult will:

- Act to safeguard the rights, entitlements and welfare of the student
- Not be a police officer or otherwise associated with the police
- Not be the headteacher
- Be of the same sex as the student, unless the student specifically requests an adult who is not of the same sex

Except for an appropriate adult of a different sex if the student specifically requests it, no one of a different sex will be permitted to be present and the search will not be carried out anywhere where the student could be seen by anyone else.

Care after a strip search

After any strip search, the student will be given appropriate support, irrespective of whether any suspected item is found. The student will also be given the opportunity to express their views about the strip search and the events surrounding it.

As with other searches, the school will consider whether the student may be suffering or likely to suffer harm and whether any further specific support is needed (due to the reasons for the search, the search itself, or the outcome of the search).

Staff will follow the school's safeguarding policy and speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). The DSL will consider whether, in addition to pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate.

Any student(s) who have been strip searched more than once and/or groups of students who may be more likely to be subject to strip searching will be given particular consideration, and staff will consider any preventative approaches that can be taken.

12 SUSPECTED CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

If a student is suspected of criminal behaviour, the school will make an initial assessment of whether to report the incident to the police.

When establishing the facts, the school will endeavour to preserve any relevant evidence to hand over to the police.

If a decision is made to report the matter to the police, the Headteacher, member of the senior leadership team or the Head of Student Services will make the report.

The school will not interfere with any police action taken. However, the school may continue to follow its own investigation procedure and enforce sanctions, as long as it does not conflict with police action.

If a report to the police is made, the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) will make a tandem report to children's social care, if appropriate.

13 ZERO-TOLERANCE APPROACH TO SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The school will ensure that all incidents of sexual harassment and/or violence are met with a suitable response, and never ignored.

Students are encouraged to report anything that makes them uncomfortable, no matter how 'small' they feel it might be.

The school's response will be:

- Proportionate
- Considered
- Supportive

- Decided on a case-by-case basis

The school has procedures in place to respond to any allegations or concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing. These include clear processes for:

- Responding to a report
- Carrying out risk assessments, where appropriate, to help determine whether to:
 - Manage the incident internally
 - Refer to early help
 - Refer to children's social care
 - Report to the police

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information.

14 MALICIOUS ALLEGATIONS

Where a student makes an allegation against a member of staff and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will consider whether to discipline the student in accordance with this policy.

Where a student makes an allegation of sexual violence or sexual harassment against another student and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will consider whether to discipline the student in accordance with this policy.

In all cases where an allegation is determined to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious, the school (in collaboration with the local authority designated officer (LADO), where relevant) will consider whether the student who made the allegation is in need of help, or the allegation may have been a cry for help. If so, a referral to children's social care may be appropriate.

The school will also consider the needs of staff and students accused of misconduct and ensure appropriate support is put in place as required,

Please refer to our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and our Managing Allegations Against Staff policy. for more information on responding to allegations of abuse against staff or other students.

15 SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES

Detention / Intervention

Students can be issued with detentions or interventions during break, lunchtime, or after school

The school will communicate these Interventions through Arbor.

- Interventions: 3:00pm-3:10pm daily
- On Call Detention: 3:00pm-3:50pm daily
- SLT detention: 3:00pm-3:30pm daily
- Headteacher detention: 3.10pm—4.10pm every Friday

When imposing a detention, the school will consider whether doing so would:

- Compromise the student's safety
- Conflict with a medical appointment
- Prevent the student from getting home safely
- Interrupt the student's caring responsibilities

Removal from classrooms

In response to serious or persistent breaches of this policy, the school may remove the student from the classroom for a limited time. Removal from the classroom is a serious disciplinary measure and distinct from seclusion, which is strictly non-disciplinary (see above for more detail on seclusion and its use).

Students who have been removed will continue to receive education under the supervision of a member of staff that is meaningful, but it may differ from the mainstream curriculum.

Removal is a serious sanction and will only be used in response to serious misbehaviour. Staff will only remove students from the classroom once other behavioural strategies have been attempted, unless the behaviour is so extreme as to warrant immediate removal.

Students may be removed from lessons by a senior member of staff through the school's on-call system.

Removal can be used to:

- Restore order if the student is being unreasonably disruptive
- Maintain the safety of all students
- Allow the disruptive student to continue their learning in a managed environment
- Allow the disruptive student to regain calm in a safe space

Students who have been removed from the classroom are supervised by a staff member at all times in Return to Learn, or another appropriate space in school.

Students will not be removed from classrooms for prolonged periods of time without the explicit agreement of the Headteacher.

Students should be reintegrated into the classroom as soon as appropriate and safe to do so. The school will consider what support is needed to help a student successfully reintegrate into the classroom and meet the expected standards of behaviour.

Parents will be informed on the same day that their child is removed from the classroom.

The school will consider an alternative approach to behaviour management for students who are frequently removed from class, such as:

- Meetings with Year Team, Learning Support or another appropriate adult.
- Use of teaching assistants or other key members of staff, for example Year Support
- Behaviour report cards
- Student Support plans
- Adapted timetables
- Multi-agency assessment

Staff will record all incidents of removal from the classroom along with details of the incident that led to the removal, and any protected characteristics of the student on Arbor.

Internal Exclusion, Fixed Term Suspension and Permanent Exclusions

The school can use Internal Exclusion, Fixed Term Suspension and Permanent Exclusion in response to serious incidents or in response to persistent poor behaviour, which has not improved following in-school interventions.

The decision to suspend or exclude will be made by the headteacher and only as a last resort.

Please refer to our exclusions policy for more information.

Governors' Panel

When a student receives a number of Fixed Term Suspensions then they may become at risk of Permanent Exclusion.

In this situation, parents may be invited to attend a meeting with their child and a School Governor.

During this meeting a series of targets will be agreed to encourage the student to make positive choices and to reduce the risk of Permanent Exclusion.

16 SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH SEND

Recognising the impact of SEND on behaviour

The school recognises that student's behaviour may be impacted by a special educational need or disability (SEND), an undiagnosed special education need or a mental health need. Pupils with SEND may react to distressing or confusing situations by displaying behaviours which may be harmful to themselves and others.

Pupils who have difficulty communicating verbally might show their needs and discomfort through their actions.

When incidents of misbehaviour arise, we will consider them in relation to a student's SEND and/or mental health need, although we recognise that not every incident of misbehaviour will be connected to their SEND or mental health need. Decisions on whether a student's SEND and/or mental health had an impact on an incident of misbehaviour will be made on a case-by-case basis.

When dealing with misbehaviour from students with SEND, especially where their SEND affects their behaviour, the school will take its legal duties into account when making decisions about enforcing the behaviour policy. The legal duties include:

- Taking reasonable steps to avoid causing any substantial disadvantage to a disabled student caused by the school's policies or practices ([Equality Act 2010](#))
- Using our best endeavours to meet the needs of students with SEND ([Children and Families Act 2014](#))
- If a student has an education, health and care (EHC) plan, the provisions set out in that plan must be secured and the school must co-operate with the local authority and other bodies

As part of meeting these duties, the school will anticipate, as far as possible, all likely triggers of misbehaviour, and put in place support, including behaviour support plans where appropriate, to prevent these from occurring.

We will utilise staff who know individual students with SEND well to:

- Help identify and manage risk, such as trigger points when challenging behaviour is more likely to occur
- Develop proactive strategies to reduce the likelihood of restrictive interventions being used

We will also work with the student, their parents/carers and other professionals to develop prevention and de-escalation strategies.

Any preventative measures will take into account the specific circumstances and requirements of the student concerned.

- Short, planned movement breaks for a student with SEND who finds it difficult to sit still for long
- Adjusting seating plans to allow a student with visual or hearing impairment to sit in sight of the teacher
- Adjusting uniform requirements for a student with sensory issues or who has severe eczema
- Training for staff in understanding conditions such as autism
- Use of separation spaces (The Studio / The Beacon) where students can regulate their emotions during a moment of sensory overload
- Referrals to explore SEND needs.
- Support from an appropriate member of staff, including wellbeing, family and year support.

Adapting sanctions for students with SEND

When considering a behavioural sanction for a student with SEND, the school will take into account:

- Whether the student was unable to understand the rule or instruction?
- Whether the student was unable to act differently at the time as a result of their SEND?
- Whether the student is likely to behave aggressively due to their particular SEND?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, it may be unlawful for the school to sanction the student for the behaviour.

The school will then assess if it is appropriate to use a sanction and if so, whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made to the sanction.

Considering whether a student displaying challenging behaviour may have unidentified SEND

The school's special educational needs co-ordinator (SENDCO) may evaluate a student who exhibits challenging behaviour to determine whether they have any underlying needs that are not currently being met.

Where necessary, support and advice will also be sought from specialist teachers, an educational psychologist, medical practitioners and/or others, to identify or support specific needs.

When acute needs are identified in a student we will liaise with external agencies and plan support programmes for that child. We will work with parents/carers to create the plan and review it on a regular basis.

Students with an education, health and care (EHC) plan

The provisions set out in the EHC plan must be secured and the school will co-operate with the local authority and other bodies.

If the school has a concern about the behaviour of a student with an EHC plan, it will make contact with the local authority to discuss the issue. If appropriate, the school may request an emergency review of the EHC plan.

17 SUPPORTING STUDENTS FOLLOWING A CONSEQUENCE

Following a consequence, the school will consider strategies to help students to understand how to improve their behaviour and meet the expectations of the school.

This could include measures like:

- Reintegration meetings
- Mediation meetings
- Daily contact with the Year Team, or another member of the Student Services or Learning Support Teams.
- A report card with personalised behaviour goals
- A Student Passport
- Support through the school graduated response.

18 STUDENT TRANSITION

Inducting incoming students

The school will support incoming students to meet behaviour standards by offering an induction process to familiarise them with the behaviour policy and the wider school culture.

Preparing outgoing students for transition

To ensure behaviour is continually monitored and the right support is in place, information related to student behaviour issues may be transferred to relevant staff at the start of the term or year.

19 TRAINING

As part of their induction process, our staff are provided with regular training on managing behaviour, including training on:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Behaviour Management: The Way We Do Things Here
- Teaching the Prenton Way
- The needs of the students at the school
- How SEND and mental health needs impact behaviour

Behaviour management will also form part of continuing professional development.

20 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

Monitoring and evaluating school behaviour

The school will collect data on the following:

- Behavioural incidents, including removal from the classroom
- Attendance, permanent exclusion and suspension
- Use of alternative provision, off-site direction and managed moves
- Incidents involving restrictive intervention, including the use of reasonable force
- Incidents of searching, screening and confiscation
- Anonymous surveys for staff, students, governors, trustees and other stakeholders on their perceptions and experiences of the school behaviour culture

The data will be analysed from a variety of perspectives including:

- At school level
- By groups
- At the level of individual members of staff
- By time of day/week/term
- By protected characteristic

The school will use the results of this analysis to make sure it is meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010. If any trends or disparities between groups of students are identified by this analysis, the school will review its policies to tackle it.

Monitoring this policy

This behaviour policy will be reviewed by the headteacher and Governing Board at least annually, or more frequently, if needed, to address findings from the regular monitoring of the behaviour data (as per section 13.1). At each review, the policy will be approved by the Headteacher and Chair of Governors.

21 LINKS WITH OTHER POLICIES

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policies

- Exclusions policy
- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Anti-Bullying policy
- Attendance Policy
- Managing Allegations against staff policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Use of Restrictive Intervention

APPENDIX 1: RETURN TO LEARN FLOW CHART

