



Vita Et Pax Preparatory School

Behaviour & Discipline Policy

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Version:	1.0	Date Approved:	February 2025
Review Date:	February 2026	Responsible:	Head Master
Head Master:	Darren May	Chair of Proprietary Body:	Pushkar Acharya
DfE URN:	102064	Charity No:	281566

1. Introduction

Vita Et Pax Preparatory School is committed to creating a caring, stimulating environment where good behaviour is promoted and where children feel valued, safe and happy. This policy provides a framework for the management of behaviour throughout the school, from Nursery to Year 6. It complies with the Independent School Standards Regulations (ISSRs) 2014 and DfE guidance "Behaviour in Schools" (2024).

2. Aims

- To promote positive behaviour, self-discipline and respect
- To ensure a consistent approach to behaviour management across the school
- To create a safe, orderly environment conducive to learning
- To encourage children to take responsibility for their own behaviour
- To ensure all children, staff and parents understand expectations

3. Positive Behaviour Approach

The school takes a positive approach to behaviour management. Children are taught what constitutes good behaviour and are given clear expectations. We believe in recognising and rewarding positive behaviour rather than focusing solely on sanctions. The school's core values (rooted in its Catholic ethos of love, respect and compassion) underpin all expectations.

4. School Rules and Expectations

Children are expected to:

- Be kind and respectful to others
- Follow instructions from staff promptly
- Take care of school property and belongings

- Move around the school calmly and safely
- Try their best in all activities
- Tell the truth and act with honesty

5. Rewards

The school operates a system of rewards to celebrate positive behaviour:

- Verbal praise and encouragement
- House points and star charts
- Certificates and awards in assembly
- Stickers and merit badges
- Head Master's Award for exceptional effort or behaviour
- Positive notes and communications home to parents

6. Sanctions

Where behaviour falls below expectations, sanctions are applied proportionately:

- Verbal reminder and warning
- Time out / loss of privilege (e.g. playtime)
- Completion of a reflection sheet
- Meeting with class teacher and/or Head Master
- Communication with parents
- Internal exclusion (removal from class for a period)
- Fixed-term suspension
- Permanent exclusion (as a last resort)

Sanctions are always applied fairly and proportionately. Corporal punishment is strictly prohibited in all circumstances, in accordance with the Education Act 1996.

7. Exclusion Procedures

The school follows ISI-compliant exclusion procedures. Only the Head Master (or acting Head in their absence) may exclude a pupil. Parents have the right to make representations to the Proprietorial Body. The school maintains records of all suspensions and exclusions and will inform the local authority as required.

8. Bullying Prevention

Bullying in any form is not tolerated. This includes physical, verbal, emotional and cyberbullying. The school's Anti-Bullying Policy provides detailed procedures for preventing and responding to bullying. All incidents are recorded and parents are informed. The school uses PSHE lessons and assemblies to educate children about bullying and its impact.

9. Physical Restraint and Reasonable Force

In exceptional circumstances, staff may use reasonable force to prevent a pupil from hurting themselves or others, damaging property, or causing disorder. This is in accordance with DfE guidance "Use of Reasonable Force" (2013) and Section 93 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. Any use of force is recorded and parents are informed. Staff receive training in positive handling techniques.

10. Support for Pupils with SEND

The school recognises that pupils with special educational needs or disabilities may require additional support with behaviour. Individualised behaviour plans will be developed in consultation with the SENCO, parents and external agencies where appropriate. Reasonable adjustments are made in line with the Equality Act 2010.

11. Monitoring and Review

Behaviour is monitored regularly by the Head Master and staff. Patterns of behaviour are analysed and addressed. This policy is reviewed annually and shared with all staff, parents and pupils.