



Thursday 31st August, 2023

## Whole School Update - Behaviour Policy

Dear Families,

As pupils prepare to return to school next week, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you our updated Behaviour Policy. As you will be aware the behaviour of pupils at St Thomas More is strong, being reported as a strength of the school in our recent Ofsted inspection. We know that the very large majority of our pupils get things right all the time, and we are grateful for your support with this. However, it is important that we have a policy that provides clarity and consistency for those pupils that require greater support.

With this in mind we have worked with staff and pupils to create a policy that provides clarity on our rules and expectations and developed a response framework that will support consistency.

I would like to use this letter to share with you some key pieces of information from the policy.

### Key Principles

- As a Catholic school we hold the principles of Christian teaching at the heart of our interactions, and our school motto of 'doing the right thing for the right reasons' underpins our interactions with all.
- Our policy is based on key principles which link to our ethos and beliefs as a Catholic school. As such we are a polite, respectful and civilised community.
- It is important to note that we expect all pupils to do the right thing and be supportive contributors to the school community.

### Behaviour Curriculum

- Our behaviour curriculum outlines the rules and expectations that we have at St Thomas More.
- We refer to this as a curriculum to underpin the notion that pupils need to be explicitly taught how to behave in the correct manner whilst at school.



- A copy of our behaviour curriculum is overleaf, you will see here the expectations we have of all pupils in the school.
- It is important to note that there are no exceptions to these expectations and as members of our community we expect all parents and guardians to support us with these expectations.

### Managing Behaviour

- Encouraging positive behaviour is at the heart of our approach to behaviour management and our staff strive to seek out and promote good conduct by recognising, and celebrating, when pupils are getting things right. Praise will be communicated through merits awarded on MCAS and praise postcards.
- If a pupil's behaviour falls short of our expected standard then a consequence may be issued by the member. This may be in the form of:
  - A detention [break / lunch / after school which will be recorded in pupil planners]
  - Contact home [phone call and/or email]
  - A written consequence linked to our Behaviour Curriculum.
- If a pupil's behaviour consistently falls below expectations and/or is linked to a serious incident they will be referred to the Pastoral Team. The Pastoral Team will:
  - Support the pupil to apologise to the member of staff,
  - Support the member of staff to implement an appropriate sanction or implement a whole school consequence and ensure the pupil completes it,
  - Communicate with the pupil's family.
  - If a student's poor behaviour continues, they may be placed on report to monitor their behaviour more closely.

### Recording behaviour

- Staff will continue to record behaviour on our management information system.
- Parents / carers can access summary information on My Child at School [MCAS]

The full policy can be found on this school website or via this [Link](#)

Can I also remind you of our updated approach to monitoring punctuality to school which was shared with you in July. A link to the letter can be found [here](#).

As always, we recognise the importance of positive relationships with parents / carers, and appreciate your support in implementing this policy. If you have any queries please do not hesitate



to contact me via the school reception.

Your sincerely

Mrs Jillian Turner  
**Head Teacher**

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Key Concept	Always Respectful	High Standards	Civilised Conduct	Active Learning
Shared Understanding	<i>Respect is at the centre of our community; we recognise that our behaviour is a way of demonstrating our respect for each other; when we get it wrong we apologise and move on.</i>	<i>We have high standards of ourselves and each other; we recognise that the way we present ourselves symbolises our commitment to these high standards.</i>	<i>We are a civilised community where civilised conduct is the norm; this means we adhere to set routines which ensure our school runs smoothly and remains a pleasant place to learn.</i>	<i>Our main focus is learning; we therefore behave in a way that ensures our learning is enhanced &amp; not disrupted.</i>
Crucial Learning	Be a caring and considerate member of the school community; accept responsibility if you make a mistake and apologise.	Wear your school uniform correctly and with pride. Key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shirts tucked in.</li> <li>• Correct footwear</li> <li>• Unrolled skirts.</li> </ul>	Maintain pride in our school site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place all rubbish in the bins provided</li> <li>• Respect the building; no graffiti or damage</li> <li>• Tidy away after lunch</li> </ul>	Be prepared & equipped for learning; work hard and complete tasks [including homework] to the best of your ability.
	Never behave in a disrespectful, discriminatory or derogatory way to anyone in our school community.	Appropriate tone, volume and language used at all times.	Be in the right place at the right time; punctuality is a vital life skill.	Actively listen & respond; give the teacher 100% of your attention.
	Visibly show your respect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address staff as Sir / Miss</li> <li>• Say good morning / afternoon to each other</li> <li>• Say please and thank you.</li> <li>• Stand and be silent when staff enter the room</li> <li>• Follow instructions from staff from the first time of asking</li> <li>• Hold doors open for each other</li> </ul>	No jewellery, no acrylic nails / varnish / gels or fake eyelashes.  Makeup kept to an absolute minimum [KS3 & KS4].	Walk on the left & leave / enter via the nearest external door.	Consistently meet the 'STM Standard' in all your work.
		Mobile phones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stored out of sight &amp; on silent</li> <li>• When requested to do so, they should put away immediately</li> </ul>	Line up quickly & orderly in all instances you are required to do so	Aim to use toilets during a break / lunchtime to avoid disruption to learning.

