



Statement of Behaviour Principles 2025–2026

Approved by Governing Body: Spring 26

Next review due: Spring 27

Purpose

This document has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and DfE guidance (*Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Guidance for Governing Bodies*). It is written in alignment with Hertfordshire's Emotional Wellbeing Principles (2020) which are intended to support approaches to behaviour.

As a Church of England primary school rooted in Christian values and rooted in scripture, the Governing Body at St Bartholomew's C of E VA Primary is responsible for setting behavioural principles that reflect our shared vision:

“Let your light shine” — inspiring and enabling all individuals to flourish and shine in their own unique way through strong Christian values of Courage, Love and Respect.

These principles act as a framework for the Co-Heads and teaching staff to develop the Behaviour and Positive Behaviour policies. They reflect the shared philosophy of governors, staff, parents, children and the law and statutory guidance on behaviour. In accordance with these principles, staff can be assured of the full support of the Governors in striving for high standards of behaviour upon which the safe, friendly and ambitious learning environment at St Bart's is founded.

This document is published on the school website and is available on request. It is updated annually by the Governing Body.

Our Shared Behavioural Aims

- At St Bartholomew's we believe that every child is equally important, created in God's image and valued as an individual. We strive to foster an environment where children are encouraged to become curious, ambitious, resilient learners and compassionate citizens.
- High standards of behaviour are essential to achieving this. Through a positive behavioural strategy rooted in Christian values — including respect, love and courage — we focus on fostering children's self-esteem, celebrating effort, and encouraging pride in themselves and the school community.
- We aim to promote meaningful and effective learning in a positive and friendly atmosphere where children learn to make the right choices for the right reasons, demonstrating our core values in action.
- All aspects of our behavioural policy apply equally to everyone in the school community regardless of gender, belief, ethnicity or background.

Our Principles

- At St Bart's, everyone has a part to play in promoting high standards of behaviour; all members should set an example by behaving in a polite, considerate way, showing respect for themselves, others and the school environment.
- Every child should behave in a way that supports their own learning and that of others. Children should feel listened to, valued and safe, enabling them to shine and flourish through learning.
- St Bartholomew's is an inclusive school that actively celebrates diversity and shows respect for all. Every community member should be free from discrimination, harassment, victimisation or conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
- We believe that positive behaviour management — with a focus on modelling good conduct, showing compassion, celebrating effort and recognising achievement — builds a harmonious environment with strong outcomes for each child.

Behaviour and Consequences

- We recognise that behaviour is specific to the individual and always strive to understand environmental and emotional influences when responding to actions.
- Where consequences are necessary, they should provide opportunities for reflection, learning and reparation, aligned with our Christian values of reconciliation and forgiveness.
- Where concerns arise, the school will work closely with parents and guardians to develop coherent approaches between home and school.
- If concerns persist, advice and support will be sought from external agencies where appropriate.
- We believe that understanding, compassion, and positive encouragement significantly reduce the need for exclusion. However, in exceptional circumstances, the Headteacher must balance the needs of the individual with the safety and wellbeing of the wider school community. Governors support the Headteacher's right to use exclusions, including permanent exclusion, where remaining in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of others.
- The Headteacher, or representative(s), will use their statutory powers to search or use reasonable force to protect individuals from harm.

Application of the Behaviour and Positive Relationships

- The school's Behaviour and Positive Relationships Policy applies to all pupils when on the school site, participating in school-run activities (including trips and clubs), and travelling to and from school.
- The school reserves the right to take action where the conduct of any pupil outside school adversely affects another pupil, a member of the public, or the reputation of the school.
- Parents and guardians share responsibility for ensuring good behaviour, and the school will work in partnership with families to resolve situations in which expectations are not met.
- The Behaviour and Positive Relationships Policy will be applied fairly to all members of the school community.