

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL



BEHAVIOUR POLICY

"If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples"

(John 13:35 GNB)

This powerful challenge underpins the aims of our Mission Statement:

- To promote Gospel Values
- To build a caring community
- To enable all members to realise their potential
- To develop links with parents

All students at Notre Dame High School have an entitlement to a high quality education, as expressed in the aims of our Mission Statement and they should be allowed to learn in a disciplined and supportive environment.

A disciplined and supportive environment can be achieved if individual students accept responsibility for their own behaviour. Staff will recognise good behaviour and punish unacceptable behaviour. We aim to respect the dignity of all individuals in ensuring that any measures which we employ are both equitable and proportionate. It is the responsibility of every member of staff to maintain a positive atmosphere within the school.

Parents also play a crucial role in shaping the attitudes which produce good behaviour in schools. We therefore endeavour to effectively communicate and work with parents in relation to promoting high standards of behaviour and tackling poor behaviour.

We are all part of a community and the basis of our Behaviour Policy is to show respect for others. This means we will:

- Respect other peoples' feelings
- Respect others' cultural heritage
- Respect differences of sexual/gender orientation
- Respect other peoples' point of view and beliefs
- Use appropriate language
- Wherever possible solve disagreements amicably
- Respect other peoples' property, equipment or work.
- Respect the school buildings and grounds.

The classroom is a place of learning, therefore:

- Students should be punctual to all lessons.
- Students should bring the correct equipment to all lessons.
- Should complete all homework set to the best of their ability (see Homework Policy for additional information).
- Students should fully follow all instruction at all times.
- Students should ensure their actions do not negatively impact on the learning of others.
- Answering back or arguing will not be accepted.

We take pride in the high quality of our school environment and expect students to:

- Respect the school buildings and grounds
- Keep within the school boundaries.
- Use correct entrances and exits.
- Be considerate when moving around site, following the 'one way system'.
- Not bring drinks cans or chewing gum onto site.
- Not to amplify music from personal devices.
- Eat and drink only in the dining room and designated eating areas.

Student safety is paramount and it is expected that:

- Students should always act in a sensible and safe way when on site.
- Students must not bring any object, implement or material into school which could compromise the safety of others. The school may confiscate any object which either compromises the safety of others, is banned or deemed inappropriate for school.
- The misuse of all prescription and non-prescription drugs will lead to sanctions being applied as per the school's Drugs Policy.
- If required staff may use reasonable force to prevent students injuring themselves or others (see Physical Intervention Policy for additional information).
- A staff member, at the request of the Headteacher, may search a student if it is believed they are in possession of an item which is illegal or may affect the safety of themselves or others.

Respect and Tolerance is central to our ethos and as such:

- Bullying in any form will not be tolerated in our community and will be dealt with according to the severity of the incident as per the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Racism in any form will not be tolerated in our community and will be treated as a serious breach of our Code of Behaviour as per the school's Anti-Racism Policy.

- Sexism or discrimination on the grounds of sexual/gender orientation will not be tolerated in our community and will be treated as a serious breach of our code of behaviour.

We recognise that online behaviour is just as important as offline behaviour and as such it is expected that with regards to online behaviour:

- Students will abide by the school's IT Agreement
- Students will only use mobile devices in school during break, lunch or if asked to by a teacher in lesson.
- Students will communicate with staff and peers in an appropriate manner.
- Students will be respectful of other peoples' feelings, cultural heritage, differences of sexual/gender and points of view or beliefs, in any online interactions with other students.
- Students will not bring the school into disrepute

Students often represent the school when off site and it is expected their behaviour will remain of a high standard. When dealing with an 'out of school' incident, students may be disciplined for misbehaviour when:

- Taking part in any school-organised/school-related activity.
- Travelling to or from school.
- On a school bus (refer to Bus Policy).
- Wearing school uniform or are in some way identifiable as a pupil at the school.
- Their behaviour could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school.
- Their behaviour could adversely affect the reputation of the school.
- Their behaviour poses a threat to another pupil or a member of the public.

Wherever possible students should be given choices and the opportunity to improve their behaviour. If a student does fail to follow the rules of the school a proportionate sanction will be put in place. No list of sanctions can take account of every eventuality, however the following provides an indication of the type of actions which the school may employ in order to maintain our high standards:

- Verbal warning
- Move student within the classroom
- Negative behaviour entry imposed
- Note in Journal
- Removal from class to the Student Support Room
- Lunchtime Detention
- After School Detention
- Report Card
- Parents contacted
- Loss of privileges

- Confiscation of item
- School based community service task
- Missing break and lunch times
- Students will clean, repair, pay for or replace anything which is damaged
- Arrangements may need to be made for students on trips to be returned home early
- Students may be banned from further trips and visits for a fixed period

Isolations

With more serious incidents it may be appropriate for the school to respond by way of placing a student in isolation.

Exclusions

The ultimate sanction available to the school is the exclusion of students. The Headteacher will use this only when:

- the learning or personal safety of other students is at risk;
- a student refuses to accept the authority of members of staff; or when
- unacceptable behaviour continues despite the efforts of staff and the imposition of other sanctions.