As a school, we are currently reviewing our Behaviour Policy. This policy needs to include a ‘Statement of Principles’ from the Governing Body which should guide the headteacher in determining measures to promote good behaviour.

Therefore as part of this process, we would like to seek the views of parents on the proposed ‘Statement of Principles’ which will form part of our reviewed Behaviour Policy.

The principles should:

- Be principles that can be explained to children of any age/ability
- Represent widespread agreement about standards amongst pupils, staff and parents
- Encourage a healthy balance between rewards and sanctions to encourage positive behaviour
- Promote behavioural improvement as a means of improving learning and teaching
- Be challenging but realistic and appropriate for development as the school builds on its successes
- Also ensure that vulnerable pupils – such as those with special educational needs, physical or mental health needs, migrant and refugee pupils and looked-after children – receive behavioural support according to their need. Children in all these groups can experience particular difficulties with behaviour, for example related to medical conditions, lack of understanding or trauma

The following proposed principles are based on Surrey guidance (‘School Discipline and Pupil Behaviour Policies – Guidance for Schools’) These expectations are moral, rather than legal. It is for individual schools to determine their own principles in the light of their individual characteristics/ethos.
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The policy should take full account of, and reflect, the rights and responsibilities of the school, its children, and the parents/carers as set out in Surrey’s guidance: “School Discipline and Pupil Behaviour Policies – Guidance for Schools”.

In particular, the policy and its underlying principles should:
* Promote and support appropriate communications between the school, its children and parents/carers on the behaviour of individual children;
* Be so worded that they can be explained clearly to children of any age and level of attainment;
* Be based on widespread consultation amongst children, staff and parents/carers about acceptable standards of behaviour;
* Enhance the safety and welfare of children and staff, and their perceptions of safety;
* Make clear the links between acceptable children’s behaviour and the quality of their learning, by promoting behavioural improvement as a means of improving learning and teaching and children’s enjoyment of school;
* Encourage a healthy balance between, and a positive attitude towards, rewards and sanctions, to encourage good behaviour;
* Promote consistency of application and support appropriate continuing professional development for all staff;
* Be challenging, but realistic and appropriate, in supporting the school’s development plan, as the school builds on its successes;
* Be transparent and well-focussed on inclusion, equality of application and match to each child’s needs, in the context of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation and disability;
* Ensure that vulnerable children – such as those with special educational needs, physical or mental health needs, migrant and refugee children, and looked-after children - receive sensitive and well-matched behavioural support matched to their needs.

If you would like to make any comments on the Statement of Principles, please respond by email to: fprophet@tadworthps.surrey.sch.uk or in writing to Miss Prophet by Wednesday 27th April 2011.

Following on from this, we will be consulting with the whole school community on the main body of the school’s behaviour policy. Further information will follow during the summer term.

Kind regards

Miss Prophet