

Ormiston Academies Trust

## Ormiston Victory Academy



# Behaviour Policy

### Policy version control

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## Contents

1. Policy statement and principles	page 3
2. Definition	page 4
3. Complaints	page 4
4. Monitoring and review	page 4
5. Roles and responsibilities	page 5
6. Academy behaviour	page 7
7. Classroom behaviour	page 8
8. Attendance	page 9
9. Uniform and appearance	page 9
10. Unacceptable Behaviour	page 10
11. Drugs	page 11
12. Alcohol	page 11
13. Disciplinary Sanctions	page 11
14. Regulating students' offsite conduct	page 13
15. Unacceptable behaviour outside the academy	page 13
16. Rewards Policy	page 14

## I. Policy statement and principles

We are dedicated to ensuring that our academy environment supports learning and the wellbeing of students and staff through a strong sense of community cohesion. Cooperation, support, and respect are the foundations of our community and we work hard to provide a safe academy where students feel included in every aspect of academy life and comfortable to voice their opinions.

At Ormiston Victory Academy we recognise not only the importance of supporting students in achieving academically, but also embrace our wider role in safeguarding their well-being and preparing them for their adult life. Part of our role in that preparation is ensuring that we promote and reinforce British values.

This policy outlines what we expect from all our students in terms of their behaviour, and the sanctions that will be enforced if this policy is not adhered to. It extends to all members of our academy community. Good behaviour and self-discipline have strong links to effective learning, and are vital for students to carry with them both during and after their academy years.

We believe that all students should be aware of the standards of behaviour that are expected of them, and take responsibility for promoting these standards. We hope that by encouraging positive behaviour patterns we can promote good relationships throughout the academy built on trust and understanding, and that through the use of this policy we can support all of our students in developing a high level of social awareness. Our aim is to ensure that all our students leave the academy with the key skills they need to continue to progress to the best of their ability in all areas of life.

### **Code of Practice**

- All staff are here to help you.
- The rules on the following pages will help you get the best possible learning experience - so follow them.
- Thank you for keeping to these rules. If, however, you break them, SAY SORRY POLITELY.
- Remember, in order to be respected by someone, you must also respect them.
- Courage means never being afraid to make the right choice.
- You are responsible for what you do and for what you say. Be responsible - actions always have consequences.
- Attitude is a little thing that makes a BIG difference. Make sure you always have a positive attitude.
- Let the choices you make today, be choices you can live with tomorrow.
- Tomorrow's success begins today.

## **2. Definition**

Positive behaviour for learning is a whole-school approach for creating a positive safe and supportive school environment in which students can learn and develop.

This policy is consistent with all other policies adopted by OAT / the academy and is written in line with current legislation and guidance.

The phrase 'behaviour for learning' conceptualises the following three relationships experienced by a student:

- Their relationship with themselves, e.g. their self-confidence as a learner
- Their relationship with others, e.g. how they socially interact
- Their relationship with the curriculum, e.g. how best they learn

In order to foster a positive learning environment in Victory these relationships must be developed and supported.

Most social, emotional and behavioural skills are learned, with behaviour for learning being a theoretical approach to the learning experience.

Rather than focussing on unwanted behaviours, the behaviour for learning approach puts value on positive behaviours, which enable and maximise learning.

This approach helps students understand the behavioural skills they need, what the teacher wants them to do, and why this will help them to learn.

### 3. Complaints

All complaints are dealt with under the OAT Complaints Policy.

Complaints should be made in writing and will follow the OAT complaint procedures and set timescales. The handling of complaints may be delegated to an appropriate person.

The outcome of the complaint will be communicated in writing.

### 4. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation and / or government guidance
- As a result of any other significant change or event
- In the event that the policy is determined not to be effective

If there are urgent concerns these should be raised to the Vice Principal for Student Engagement in the first instance for them to determine whether a review of the policy is required in advance of the review date.

## 5. Roles and responsibilities

### Students

The academy expects all of its students to show respect to one another, to academy staff, and anyone else that they may meet. Incidents of bullying, denigration, or bringing intentional harm to other students or staff will not be tolerated.

Students are ambassadors of our academy even when off academy premises, and we expect them to act accordingly. They are expected to obey academy rules, listen, follow instructions by staff, and accept and learn from any sanctions that they receive. This extends to any arrangements put in place to support their behaviour, such as pastoral support programmes or parenting contracts.

Academy work and homework should be well presented, completed to a high standard, and handed in on time. Failure to hand in work on time will lead to disciplinary sanctions. If students are struggling to meet the requirements of their workload for any reason, they should discuss this with their tutor who will work with them to draw up a support plan. The academy asks that students carefully read and then sign the home-academy agreement to show that they have understood what is expected of them and acknowledge the responsibility that they have for their own behaviour.

### Students will:

- Abide by the Home-Academy Agreement and the Academy's Behaviour for Learning Policy at all times.
- Act as positive ambassadors and representatives of name of Academy through their exemplary behaviour.
- Be polite and respectful of others in the surrounding community.
- Work to the best of their ability and effort at all times, whilst allowing other students to do the same.
- Cooperate with other students and members of staff in order to create a positive learning environment.
- Be ready to learn by ensuring regular attendance to all lessons and arriving at Academy with the correct equipment.
- Correctly present themselves in the Academy uniform, in accordance with the Academy's Uniform Policy.
- Respect and value the environment and their surroundings, as well as each other.
- Not act in a manner which is disruptive to the learning of others.
- Under no circumstances put the health and safety of others at risk.

### Academy

The academy understands that the first step to modelling good behaviour is to lead by example, which means that all staff, volunteers, and anyone else who comes to the academy must act responsibly and professionally, and will never denigrate students or colleagues. We work hard to ensure that discipline is consistent across the academy so that behaviour boundaries and sanctions are clear to all and are applied fairly, proportionately, and without discrimination, taking into account special educational needs and disabilities as well as the additional challenges that some vulnerable students may face.

Staff are trained to deal with behavioural strategies as part of their continual professional development, and are well informed of the extent of their disciplinary authority.

We work with parents to understand their children and their behaviour and believe that in conjunction with behaviour boundaries and sanctions, good support systems, praise, and rewards for good behaviour are an important part of building an effective learning community.

The academy will report behaviour, good or bad, to parents regularly. We encourage parents to communicate with the academy if they have a concern about their child's behaviour, and we will do as much as is possible to support parents as and when they need it. We promote good behaviour within the academy curriculum and reminders of academy rules and expected standards of behaviour are up on walls in classrooms and situated around the academy.

Staff are a constant presence around the academy, before and after the academy day, in-between classes, during breaks in the academy day, and at lunch times, to check that students are using the academy grounds respectfully and behaving appropriately.

The academy will take all reasonable measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff and this includes protection from bullying. We aim to combat bullying and other harmful behaviour using, amongst others, preventative strategies through the active development of students' social, emotional and behavioural skills.

### Staff members will:

- Implement the Academy's Behaviour for Learning Policy at all times.
- Maintain a positive and well-managed learning environment.
- Be positive ambassadors of the Academy at all times, through their professional behaviour and conduct.
- Use the Academy's reward system and hierarchy of sanctions to promote good behaviour.
- Use the rules and consequences outlined in this policy clearly and consistently.
- Treat all students fairly and equally, seeking to raise their self-esteem and develop to their full potential.
- Undertake comprehensive planning to provide challenging, interesting and relevant lessons, which are appropriate to the age, ability and individual needs of students.
- Record all behavioural events, both positive and negative, on the Academy's management information system, by following the correct reporting procedure.
- Raise any concerns regarding students' behaviour with the relevant Head of Year or Head of Year (Behaviour).
- Take the necessary steps to effectively manage student behaviour, such as placing students on report where appropriate.
- Support other members of staff with behavioural issues involving individual students or groups of students.
- Liaise with other members of staff and the senior leadership team (SLT) in order to implement effective behaviour management.
- Organise detentions where appropriate.
- Intervene promptly when they encounter poor behaviour or unexplained absence.
- Immediately contact the Vice Principal for Student Engagement or the Assistant Principal for Behaviour and the rest of the SLT when there has been a serious breach of the Academy's Code of Conduct.
- Contact parents/carers regarding their child's behaviour where necessary.
- Continuously keep parents/carers informed of any behavioural management issues concerning their child.
- Act in accordance with the Academy's Exclusion Policy when dealing with more serious breaches of Academy conduct.
- Monitor the attitude, effort and quality of the students' work.
- Make referrals to external agencies where necessary,
- Inform the SLT of relevant behaviour data and trends.
- Ensure that all records are kept up-to-date.
- Consistently develop their understanding of behaviour for learning and relevant techniques as part of their CPD.

## Parents

Parents play a big part in ensuring that their children are responsible for their own behaviour in academy. We ask that parents sign the home-academy agreement to indicate that they will respect and support the academy's behaviour policy and the authority of academy staff. Building academy life into a natural routine ensuring that your child is at academy on time, appropriately dressed, rested, and equipped will encourage your child to adhere to academy rules and procedures.

We ask parents to work with the academy in support of their child's learning, which includes informing the academy of any special educational needs or personal factors that may result in their child displaying unexpected behaviour. We ask that parents be prepared to attend meetings at the academy with staff or the principal to discuss their child's behaviour and to adhere to any parenting contracts put in place.

In the case of exclusions, we ask that parents provide appropriate supervision for their child during the time that they are excluded from the academy and, if invited, to attend a reintegration interview at the academy with their child.

### Parents/Carers will:

- Abide by the Home-Academy Agreement, ensuring the attendance and punctuality of their child, as well as reporting any absences.
- Encourage good behaviour and for their child to be an ambassador of the Academy at all times, in line with the Behaviour for Learning Policy, by reinforcing Academy rules.
- Share any concerns they have regarding their child's education, welfare, behaviour and life at name of Academy with the student's classroom teacher, form tutor or SLT.
- Support their child's independent learning.
- Support the Academy's decisions in relation to behavioural issues, whilst having the right to question name of Academy's decisions regarding their child's behaviour.
- Ensure that their child correctly presents themselves as a student of name of Academy, in accordance with the Academy's Uniform Policy.

## 6. Academy behaviour

Academy rules that apply at all times to all members of the academy community are detailed below. All of these rules also apply when travelling to and from the academy.

- Always be on time
- Keep your appearance smart and tidy
- Wear regulation academy uniform at all times to and from academy
- Rude, derogatory, racist or defamatory language will not be tolerated
- Be considerate of your peers and the extended community
- Do not run through hallways and corridors
- Do not shout out during lessons, or shout to one another in hallways, or when in public places
- Be polite and respectful at all times
- Respect and look after the academy premises and environment, both on the academy site and outside
- Do not litter or not vandalise academy property in any way
- Unauthorised absence from academy will not be tolerated
- Health and safety equipment is only for use in emergency situations and should not be tampered with under any circumstances
- Disobeying staff will not be tolerated
- Under no circumstances will illegal or inappropriate items be brought into academy
- Gambling is not allowed on academy property

The following items are not allowed in the academy under any circumstances:

- Alcohol and drugs
- Cigarettes, matches, and lighters
- Chewing gum
- Weapons of any kind
- Material that is inappropriate or illegal for children to have; such as racist, radical / extremist or pornographic material
- Energy Drinks

## 7. Classroom behaviour

- A set of the Academy rules will be clearly displayed in each classroom.
- Dealing with behavioural problems is primarily the responsibility of teaching staff.
- Teaching staff will use seating plans and a range of de-escalation techniques to encourage good behaviour and create an effective learning environment.
- Praise will be used to set high expectations at the start of the lesson, in conjunction with non-verbal cues and private corrections in order to focus students on learning.
- Lessons will be structured and have a focussed framework, in order to allow students to understand what is being taught and how it links to what they already know.
- All staff members will support students' emotional wellbeing and welfare within the learning environment by encouraging students to develop effective social relationships.
- When a student acts in a disruptive manner or ignores instructions given by a staff member, the following three steps will be taken:
  - Reminder – the student is reminded of their expectations
  - Restorative detention – the staff member informs the student of the consequences of their disruptive behaviour, such as issuing a warning of a detention
  - Removal – if the student's behaviour persists, the staff member will move the student from where they are sat in the classroom, or remove the student from the class, in order to avoid affecting the learning experience of other students
- Staff members will remind students that at each stage of the process they have the opportunity to amend their behaviour, rather than escalate it.
- De-escalation techniques will be used at all times.
- Where poor behaviour continues and intervention is necessary, a three-stage progressive intervention process will be followed:
  - Stage 1 – the classroom teacher will manage behaviour strategies, sanctions and the three-step process outlined above.
  - Stage 2 – if poor behaviour persists, pastoral staff will become involved in managing the behavioural incident.
  - Stage 3 – serious breaches of conduct and persistent offenders will be dealt with by the headteacher and the rest of the SLT.
- The overall aim of the structure of lessons is to actively engage students and to develop their learning skills systematically so that their learning becomes increasingly independent.
- Whilst using the academy corridors and surrounding area of the academy building, students will act in a responsible and respectful manner, as would be expected in a classroom.



## 8. Attendance

Regular attendance at the academy is required by law, and we take attendance very seriously

A register is taken daily and at the start of each lesson. Disciplinary action will be taken against any students who are discovered to be truanting or are repeatedly late.

Parents or carers will be contacted to discuss possible reasons for attendance issues and any support systems that could help. More information can be found in the academy's attendance policy on our website.

## 9. Uniform and appearance

Effective teaching and learning needs proper organisation, and this starts with a smart and tidy appearance which helps to instill discipline and pride in appearance in students, and reduces the risk of distraction in lessons. Please see the Uniform Guide on our website in the Parent section.

The standard uniform is as follows:

- Academy black blazer
- Academy black trousers/skirt
- Plain white shirt
- Academy tie
- Academy V neck jumper (optional)
- Black socks/tights
- Black school shoes – No trainers/trainer-style
- Academy waterproof jacket (optional)

Students are required to wear blazers at all times. They may be removed in class if the teacher gives permission to do so.

- Ties are **compulsory** for **all** students in year 7 from September 2018. For all other year groups, girls have the option to wear a tie, if they choose to do so they must wear a shirt with a top button.
- Top shirt buttons must be done up at all times.
- Ties must be tied to cover the top button and reach belt length.
- Shirts and blouses are to be plain white, completely tucked in and buttoned up. Collars should not have any buttons or trims.
- Choice of trousers or a skirt. All skirts must be knee length; no fashion or stretchy trousers/skirts.
- Students must wear black socks, when wearing a skirt, black knee length socks or black tights must be worn.
- Students are required to wear sensible black school shoes. Trainers, canvas shoes, trainer style leather shoes or boots are not permitted. Sensible leather ankle boots, for appropriate weather, are now permitted.
- If a student wears a belt, it should be plain and black.
- No jewellery is permitted apart from a watch and one pair of small, plain metallic or diamante ear studs worn in the centre of the ear lobe.

- Any fresh piercing will need to be removed, or a clear/flesh coloured retainer worn. Facial and Body piercings are not permitted, this includes the top of the earlobe or the tragus
- Make up must be natural looking; no false eyelashes, lipstick or eyeliner. No painted or drawn on eyebrows.
- False/acrylic nails or nail tips are not permitted. Colourless nail varnish is permitted.
- No extremes of hair colour or styles of hair - including dip dye. Hair must be of natural colour. Students may have grade I hair, but may not have patterns designed in.
- Students are not permitted to wear hooded sweatshirts as part of the uniform or as a coat

The academy uniform should be worn by all students in year 7 through to year 11. Students who come in not wearing the correct academy uniform may be sent to Inclusion until the correct uniform is brought in by parents/carers. If a parent/carer cannot supply the correct uniform, they are encouraged to speak to the relevant Head of Year or Head of Year for Behaviour who may be able to support.

## 10. Unacceptable behaviour

The following behaviour is regarded as completely unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action and possibly exclusion from the academy on a fixed-term or permanent basis. For more information on exclusions, see our exclusion policy.

- Verbal abuse to staff and others or arguing with staff
- Verbal abuse to students
- Play fighting
- Physical abuse / attack on staff
- Physical abuse / attack on students
- Any form of bullying (physical or verbal) or cyber bullying, including transphobic, homophobic or any other abuse
- Wandering the Academy and causing disruption
- Use of mobile phone
- Indecent behaviour
- Damage to property
- Misuse, possession or supplying illegal drugs or alcohol
- Misuse of other substances
- Theft of Academy staff/students property
- Serious actual or threatened violence against another student or a member of staff
- Sexual abuse or assault
- Carrying an offensive weapon
- Arson
- Persistent defiant behaviour
- Unacceptable behaviour which has previously been reported and for which academy sanctions and other interventions have not been successful in modifying the student's behaviour

## 11. Drugs

The academy will not tolerate drug use of any sort on academy property or during off-site academy activities (please refer to the Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy). The academy takes its anti-drugs policy very seriously and will discipline any person found to be in possession of drugs. This includes solvents and any other substance that can be misused or harmful. Students may be permanently excluded if they are found to be involved in drug-related incidents. This includes supplying, possessing, or taking drugs.

### Prescription drugs/Controlled Substances

Carrying, supplying or taking prescription drugs illegitimately could result in a permanent exclusion.

### Non-prescription drugs

Some over-the-counter drugs can be harmful if misused. We ask that students do not carry these in academy. If they need medication they must bring this into student services for safekeeping.

### Medication

We are aware that it may be necessary for some students to take medication during the academy day. (Please see the Supporting Students with Medical Needs Policy). Parents should make the academy aware of this in writing as soon as their child starts taking the medication. The academy may request medical evidence prior to administering any medication.

## 12. Alcohol

Consuming, carrying or supplying alcohol is strictly prohibited. Any student involved in any alcohol-related activity may be permanently excluded.

## 13. Disciplinary sanctions

The academy operates using the following disciplinary measures:

Sanctions	Examples of use
Written	Attendance issues Failure to complete homework
Detention	For disruption of lessons Complete refusal to comply Lateness
Exit	For disruption of a lesson and failure to respond to warnings, as an interim whilst an event is investigated, or arranged by a department for repeated lesson disruptions
Inclusion	Inappropriate/racist language Failure to attend Principal's detention Two or more exits in a day Complete refusal to comply Truancy

External Inclusion	<p>Failure in Inclusion Fighting Swearing at a member of staff</p>
Permanent Exclusion	<p>Dangerous behaviour towards peers or staff Failure to improve behaviour over a significant period of time. Bringing illegal items or substances on site</p>
Searching and confiscation	<p>Staff members are authorised to use confiscation as a disciplinary sanction if it is lawful. This means that staff may confiscate or seize items in the possession of students that are illegal, or banned by the academy. It is our first priority to ensure that students are in a safe and secure environment when they are in our care, and any items that may jeopardise the safety of other students or themselves will be taken off students without notice.</p> <p>A teacher or someone who has lawful control of the child can search a student <b>with their permission</b> to look for any item that the academy’s rules say must not be brought into academy. Principals and / or members of staff authorised by them have the power to search a student <b>without the student’s consent</b> if they suspect they are in possession of ‘prohibited items’. Prohibited items that can be searched for without consent include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Knives or weapons</li> <li>● Alcohol or drugs</li> <li>● Stolen items</li> <li>● Tobacco and cigarette papers</li> <li>● Fireworks</li> <li>● Pornographic images</li> <li>● Articles that have been or could be used to commit an offence or cause harm</li> <li>● Any item which the academy rules identify as an item for which a search may be made</li> </ul> <p>Staff can seize an electronic device to examine any data or files on the device if they think there is good reason to do so. These data or files may be erased before returning the item if they believe there is good reason to do this.</p> <p>Where appropriate the items seized may be handed over to the police. Any cigarettes confiscated in the academy will be destroyed. Following searching and confiscation of items the academy will speak to the parents concerned. Any items confiscated will be recorded by the academy. Items such as jewellery or mobile phones will be held at reception until such time the parent/carer can collect. A text will then be sent to parents/carers by Student Services.</p>
Use of force	<p>The academy does not encourage the use of force and it will be used very rarely in special circumstances. There is no definition of when it is reasonable to use force, and every situation will have to be judged by the person in charge at that time. The degree of force used should be the minimum needed to achieve the desired result.</p> <p>Academy staff can use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances to prevent a student from doing, or continuing to do, any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Committing any offence (or, for a student under the age of criminal responsibility, what would be an offence for an older student);</li> <li>● Causing personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any student (including him or herself)</li> <li>● Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the academy or among any students receiving education at the academy, whether during a teaching session or otherwise</li> </ul>

All staff at the academy have the authority to use force when reasonable, and this extends to any other person whom the principal has given the responsibility to be in charge or in control of the students. Staff can also use this power when they are lawfully in charge of students but off the academy premises – i.e. on an academy trip.

Following serious incidents involving the use of force, the academy will speak to the parents concerned. It is up to the academy to decide whether it is an appropriate occasion to report the use of force to parents.

Such serious incidents involving the use of force will also be recorded by the academy.

Sanctions are adapted relating to the seriousness and frequency of the behaviour. Records will be kept of all sanctions imposed upon students for serious misbehaviour.

## 14. Regulating students' offsite conduct

Students who are caught or known to have been misbehaving on the way to or from the academy, or near the academy premises, will be disciplined by the academy. This also applies to students who break academy conduct during work experience, academy trips, or extended academy activities such as sports events, or any event where poor behaviour might jeopardise the chances of future students participating.

In addition students who seek outside of academy hours to bully or otherwise cause harm to other students at the academy whether through cyber bullying or other ways may be subject to sanctions under the behaviour policy as if their actions had taken place whilst at the academy itself.

## 15. Unacceptable behaviour outside the academy

Community partnership and cohesion is extremely important at Ormiston Victory Academy. We expect students to take responsibility for their actions outside of the academy; we also have a legal right to discipline students for misbehaving outside of the Academy premises under Section 89(5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

All unacceptable behaviour and instances of bullying occurring anywhere outside the academy, which have been witnessed by a staff member or reported to the academy, will be dealt with using the academy consequences ladder.

This will include any unacceptable behaviour when a student:

- Is taking part in any activity organized by the academy
- Is travelling to or from the academy
- Is wearing academy uniform
- Is in some other way identifiable as a student at the academy
- Poses a threat to another student or member of the public
- Could adversely affect the reputation of the academy

## 16. Rewards policy

The academy believes that it is important to encourage good conduct throughout the academy by celebrating and rewarding good behaviour.

At Victory we aim to create a culture where praise, rewards and achievements are widely celebrated. It is important to us that students are always motivated to work as hard as possible, therefore we have our new rewards system where students will be rewarded for a whole range of activities, both academic and pastoral.

Ormiston Victory Academy recognises that pupils should be rewarded for displaying consistently good behaviour.

Praise will:

- Be given in relation to a specific task or action.
- Be earned, ensuring that the recipient is clear about what they are being praised for.
- Reinforce name of Academy's core values and ethos.
- Not be awarded for vague accomplishments or be given too easily and spread too widely.
- Not be in a manner which is selective, exclusive or causes the recipient embarrassment.
- Always have a positive effect upon others as well as the recipient.
- Be used to motivate pupils and help them to feel valued.

Ormiston Victory Academy has a reward system in place which rewards pupils for displaying good behaviour and progressing their learning, through the following methods:

- Certificates
- Headteacher awards
- Verbal praise
- Written praise/postcards home
- Phone call home
- Comments at parents evening
- Prizes
- Awarding merits
- Stickers
- Visa points
- Early lunch pass
- Sweets or treats/ice cream/bacon roll
- End of term whole-class rewards
- Half-termly assemblies are held to praise and reward pupils achievements and effort
- Reward activities are arranged for groups of pupils at the end of the year
- Drinks tokens
- Stationery/equipment
- Q-Bot
- Cinema pass for lecture theatre
- Chauffeur mini-bus service
- Beauty treatment
- Free lunch
- Gaming pass
- Ormiston logo bottle, coffee travel cup or highlighter
- Use of sporting facilities
- Teacher for a lesson
- Non-uniform day
- Afternoon tea
- Hot chocolate with the Principal