

A Parent's Guide to the St Paul's Catholic School Behaviour Policy

(updated to reflect the Behaviour Policy – 2026-28)

Parents are asked to ensure they read the full Behaviour policy so they are informed about all aspects of behaviour expectations and management, at St. Paul's. [Behaviour-Policy.pdf](#)

This document has been updated to incorporate statutory safeguarding, SEND, isolation, online behaviour and confiscation requirements, in line with current DfE guidance.



The purpose of the school's Behaviour Policy, is to ensure that school is conducted in a safe, calm and secure environment in order that each student fulfils their God-given potential. The dignity of each person created *in the image and likeness of God*, is enshrined as a fundamental principle of this policy, alongside the Christian understanding of forgiveness reconciliation and justice.

'This is what the Lord asks

of you: To act justly;

To love tenderly;

And to walk humbly with your God'

Through effective partnership with parents, we seek to create an atmosphere of high expectations and good behaviour and mutual respect. Good behaviour is not simply the absence of poor behaviour; it includes helping students to flourish as learners and as human beings.

The core character values at St. Paul's are:

- *Resilience*
- *Independence*
- *Curiosity*
- *Reflectiveness*
- *Perseverance*
- *Reasoning*

Discretion

No behaviour policy or set of protocols can cover all eventualities. The Principal reserves the right to use professional discretion to help students make better choices and to learn the right lessons from their behaviour.

Reasonable adjustments

Where appropriate, the school will make reasonable adjustments for students, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, whose needs mean they may find our high expectations more challenging to meet. A reasonable adjustment does not mean lowering expectations; it means providing appropriate support to help students meet them.

When applying sanctions, the school will consider whether behaviour may be a manifestation of a pupil's special educational need or disability. Sanctions will not disproportionately penalise pupils with SEND, and reasonable adjustments may include altered sanctions as well as additional support.

Rights and responsibilities

The school has the right to:

- Expect the highest standards of behaviour from all students
- Enforce the Behaviour Policy, including all rules and sanctions
- Expect students and parents to work in partnership with the school to maintain its Catholic ethos and a calm, orderly learning environment
- Refuse to accept confrontational, threatening or abusive behaviour from students or parents
- Take firm action where students harass or denigrate staff or others, including offsite or online where appropriate

The school expects students to:

- Act as positive ambassadors for the school, including when travelling to and from school
- Follow staff instructions and school rules
- Cooperate with behaviour support strategies such as reports or Pastoral Support Plans
- Accept rewards and sanctions appropriately
- Treat others and school property with respect

Parents have the right to:

- Have concerns about bullying or behaviour taken seriously and investigated
- Appeal against suspension or permanent exclusion in line with statutory guidance
- Be kept informed about their child's behaviour and progress
- Have their child kept safe, respected and supported in school

The school asks parents to:

- Support the Behaviour Policy and the authority of school staff
- Ensure their child follows school rules and instructions
- Inform the school of any SEND, disability or personal factors affecting behaviour
- Engage promptly with the school where concerns arise
- Attend reintegration meetings following a suspension

Student Code of Conduct

Students at St Paul's, are expected to do whatever it takes to help create a safe, respectful school environment. This includes:

- Following instructions calmly and politely
- Treating everyone with respect and good manners
- Moving around the school sensibly
- Being punctual and ready to learn
- Never using insulting, abusive or sexualised language or behaviour

Students are also expected to follow the St Paul's Principles including listening respectfully, speaking with manners and treating others with dignity.

St Paul's Principles

Sit up and listen

Think before you speak

Please and thank you are compulsory

Always hold doors open

Use your eyes to make eye contact

Listen to others respectfully

Speak with manners at all times

Mobile Phones and Devices - from August 2026

***As a result of site circumstances, and with due regard to safeguarding all students, we take the school site to mean the grounds after the grey student gates. This does therefore not include the bus bay/student arrival waiting area**

Mobile phones are not permitted on the school site * for Years 7-11. Phones should not be seen from the minute students enter the grey student gates until the point they depart through the same gates at the end of the day.

Phones **may not** be used in lessons as calculators, to do research, take photos or check school or exam timetables. The permitted exceptions to phones being used in classrooms are in:

- ✓ Sixth form lessons to access text books and mark schemes
- ✓ In A Level Biology to take pictures of microscopy specimens so they can make biological drawings, and to take pictures when directed to for work purposes
- ✓ Sixth form Media lessons to create moving image videos, to practice camera shots and angles, create Instagram posts and TikTok posts
- ✓ Year 11 Photography and Food students during the Lent and Pentecost terms to update their digital coursework folders and sketchbooks in class
- ✓ Year 11 Dance choreography unit to access music (includes use of headphones/pods)
- ✓ Year 11 Drama rehearsal photos and feedback speeches during the NEA
- ✓ Year 13 Theatre Studies Live script editing during NEA rehearsal and recording 'Frantic' movement sequences

Phones for medical reasons

A small number of students need their phones for medical reasons i.e. to check heart or insulin levels. If a student has their phone out and is questioned, they can show the member of staff the health app they are using. Phones must be put away again once they are finished.

Emergency contact with parents

There may be an occasion when students have to call or message parents e.g. if a school bus is running very late or an after-school club is cancelled. We will always send messages to you via the office but in addition, students are permitted to send and receive messages or calls outside the grey student gates.

Other than these named exceptions, staff are not permitted to allow or ask students to get phones out under any circumstances.

Smartwatches, earphones, headphones and similar devices are also subject to the same rules and sanctions.

Sanctions

A C4 will be issued by a member of staff if an item is seen and confiscated.

Confiscated items will be brought to the office to be kept, and the admin team will send a message home, advising of the collection date. Should a student refuse to hand the item over when asked, this will result in a suspension. **Nb.** See Behaviour Policy in full [Behaviour-Policy.pdf](#)

Note: Staff will not access personal data on confiscated devices unless necessary for safeguarding purposes. Any search of digital content will follow statutory thresholds and guidance. Staff may also access their phones when needing to use the authenticator app.

Behaviour Outside School and Online

The school may take disciplinary action where behaviour outside school, including online behaviour, causes harm, distress, brings the school into disrepute or poses a safeguarding concern.

Online abuse, harassment, sexual harassment, image sharing, threats, coercion or peer-on-peer abuse are treated as **safeguarding concerns first**, not solely as behaviour issues. Staff will **record and report concerns immediately** to the Designated Safeguarding Lead in line with statutory safeguarding guidance. Behaviour sanctions may be applied where appropriate, but **must not replace safeguarding action**.

Sexism and Sexual Misconduct

St Paul's Catholic School does not tolerate sexist language, sexual harassment or sexualised behaviour of any kind. All reports are taken seriously, investigated promptly and may involve safeguarding procedures. Parents will be informed where appropriate.

Sanctions, Isolation and Suspension

The school uses a graduated **Choice–Chance–Consequence** system to address behaviour concerns. Sanctions are reasonable, proportionate and take account of individual circumstances, including SEND.

Detentions are set using Arbor and parents are notified at least 24 hours in advance.

Isolation (internal exclusion) may be used for serious or persistent behaviour

concerns. Isolation is time-limited, reviewed regularly, and includes appropriate

welfare safeguards. Students have access to learning, food, water and toilet facilities.

Isolation is not a replacement for suspension where suspension is appropriate. Repeated use of isolation will trigger a review of support strategies and may result in additional intervention.

Suspension may be used where behaviour is serious or persistent. Parents are informed without delay and a reintegration meeting is arranged, before the student returns to school.

Working in Partnership

Good behaviour is most effective when school and home, work together. Parents and carers are encouraged to contact the school if they have concerns or require clarification.

The full Behaviour Policy is available on the school website [Behaviour-Policy.pdf](#)

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