



POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

August 2021
(Review in August 2023)

Rationale

We believe that positive relationships between adults and pupils will lead to better behaviour and better learning.

'The foundation for schools, learning establishments and education authorities is a whole school ethos of prevention, early intervention and support against a background which promotes positive relationships, learning and behaviour.

Everyone in a learning community should feel they are in a safe and nurturing environment.'

From 'Included, Engaged and Involved' Scottish Government

Our Aims

- To create an ethos of mutual respect where the whole school community feels valued and included.
- To ensure that all pupils are able to realise their potential through the promotion and recognition of achievement and excellence.
- To strengthen the supportive partnership within the school with parents and the wider community.

Our School Vision

- Today we achieve. Tomorrow we make a difference.

Bonnyrigg's Values

- Safe
- Happy
- Confident
- Achieving

Our Expectations

- Ready to Learn
- Respectful
- Safe

These expectations underpin all that we do in school. They should be referred to in every conversation about behaviour and emphasised in every part of school life.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

All staff in school should focus on the following:

- Giving positive attention to effort, not achievement
- Including non- verbal cues
- PIP RIP- Praise in public, Reprimand in Private
- Giving positive recognition to those going over and above - Recognition Wall
- Beginning the day with a positive greeting
- Ending with a positive reflection
- Thanking pupils for, but not rewarding, expected behaviour
- Rewarding behaviour that goes 'above and beyond'

Recognition Board

All classes should have a Recognition Board. This board will be used to celebrate behaviour in a positive way. Classes will agree a focus to work towards and all children will try to gain points/stars for the Recognition Board. Once an agreed number of points/stars has been achieved the class will receive a short reward eg a popular game, an extra 5 minutes break.

These points/stars should not be named.

School Houses

We have 4 school Houses; Burns, MacDuff, Inglis and Wallace. Each pupil and staff member is part of a House. Children will be allocated a house in P1. Siblings will be in the same house.

Each House has a Captain and a Vice Captain from P7. Elections are held every August.

House points are collected by pupils who demonstrate 'over and above' behaviours (more than good manners). Only one house point should be awarded at a time.

House points will be counted termly and a House Recognition Celebration is held at the end of each term to celebrate pupil achievement.

Unwanted Behaviours

If children's behaviour is not Ready, Respectful or Safe they will

- Receive a short 'time out' during which to calm down or to reflect
- Participate in a brief restorative conversation with the person who gave them the time out
- Rejoin their class
- Should the behaviour continue then the process above will be repeated
- Should it continue beyond this then the pupil will be referred to the SLT

Restorative Conversations

As with other curricular areas, we place great emphasis in teaching our children how to make better choices through the Emotional Health and Wellbeing curriculum. Where an incident in school has occurred we will discuss this with all involved, this may be at the time or at a more appropriate moment. Pupils are listened to during this time and encouraged to reflect on incidents. Our intention is to develop understanding of others points of view and needs, with a hope to repair relationships.

Sometimes consequences are required. Consequences that adults in school may use are:

- Reflection time (15 minutes away from class over break/lunch to reflect on what has happened)
- Involvement of SLT
- Parents contacted
- Removal of the child from class/activity for a period of time

Playground Behaviour

If children's behaviour is not Ready, Respectful or Safe they will:

- Receive a short 'time out' on a bench, during which to calm down or to reflect
- Participate in a brief restorative conversation with the person who gave them the time out
- Rejoin their classmates to play
- Should the behaviour continue beyond this then the pupil will be referred to the SLT

If behaviour is considered dangerous then Learning Assistants are able to make the decision to refer immediately to SLT.

Indoor Club

Some children can find the playground too busy and noisy. These children are, in consultation with their class teacher, able to access the indoor break/lunch club. Parents/carers may also request for their child to come to lunch club if for example their child has an injury that prevents them from going outside

From Monday to Wednesday children have the option to play games, read or draw. On Thursday and Friday children can also choose to access the computers.

P7 pupils can access the computers all week.

Indoor club will be supervised by a member of SLT.

As a school we will work together with families and external agencies to support all learners.

Occasionally further sanctions may be required.

These can include:

A Formal Disciplinary Warning

A letter which is sent home to parents/carers regarding a pupil's behaviour.

Following the issue of the letter a meeting will be arranged to discuss an agreed plan for a way forward.

Temporary Exclusion

This is a time-limited exclusion imposed by the Headteacher at the conclusion of which the child or young person returns to their current school.

Following a period of exclusion a re-admittance meeting would be held with the child's parents/carers and a plan agreed for a way forward.