



## **Behaviour for Learning Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

Wendover Online School aims to encourage students to adopt the highest standards of behaviour, principles and moral standards. We aim to promote trust and mutual respect for everyone. We believe that good relations, good manners and a secure learning environment play a crucial part in the development of intellectually curious students, who are motivated to become lifelong learners. We develop qualities of teamwork and leadership through our extensive programme. 'Behaviour for learning' emphasises the link between the way young people learn and their social knowledge and behaviour. We recognise three factors which impact on young peoples' learning behaviour:

#### **1. Relationship with self**

A student who does not feel confident as a learner and who has internalised a view that he or she is unable to succeed as a learner may be less likely to try to learn through fear of failure. The student may be more likely to misbehave as a consequence.

#### **2. Relationship with others**

Behaviour needs to be understood as behaviour in context. A person's behaviour is the result of interacting with other people and the environment. Behaviour in school may be the result of a variety of influences and not necessarily an indication of the student's unwillingness to behave or learn as a teacher expects.

#### **3. Relationship with the curriculum**

Student behaviour and the curriculum are inextricably linked: if a student knows that they are progressing through the curriculum and achieving their potential, a positive behavioural environment can be created.

We firmly believe that pupils respond best to praise and positive incentives and the basis of our behaviour management is always to look for the good in young people. We believe that every student wishes to learn, wishes to succeed and has a capacity for development. We work actively to discourage behaviour which prevents learning.

We are committed to providing a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment. Our ethos reflects the articles laid out in the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\)](#) which underpin all aspects of the support we offer to the students in our care.

## **2. Aims**

At Wendover Online School, our primary aim is to ensure that students are successful in their learning, that they are able to enjoy school and to recognise their achievements. In setting this precedent we work to:

- ensure that the school is a safe, orderly environment that encourages learning.
- ensure that behaviour management is consistent across the school.
- ensure a calm, productive atmosphere that is conducive to learning.
- celebrate and reward good behaviour.
- promote and assist the moral development of pupils in terms of altruism and their sense of community.
- ensure early identification of behaviours which may adversely affect student learning and intervene quickly to rectify the situation.
- work actively against behaviour that may damage the inclusive ethos of the school.

## **3. Code of conduct**

Wendover Online School sees education as a partnership. Our staff are committed to excellence, aiming to achieve a spirit of trust and cooperation. We expect the highest values and standards of behaviour, both inside and outside the classroom, as well as outside the school and in any written or electronic communication concerning the school. Everyone has a right to feel secure and to be treated with respect, particularly the vulnerable. Harassment and bullying will not be tolerated. The school is strongly committed to promoting equal opportunities for all, regardless of race, gender, gender orientation, physical or hidden disability.

We expect students to be ready to learn and to participate in school activities. They should attend school and lessons punctually and follow the school's attendance policy. Students should ensure they are prepared for lessons appropriately, bringing the correct equipment and materials. We expect students to behave at all times in a manner that reflects the best interests of the whole community.

Students are seen as ambassadors for the school and, as such, we expect the highest standards of behaviour in and around their own community and when involved in any online activities.

## **4. Respect, rights and responsibilities**

### **1. Respect**

We encourage all students to develop a healthy self-respect and respect for others through high expectations and rewarding success.

### **2. Rights**

- Students have the right to learn without having their learning disrupted.
- Teachers have the right to teach without having their lessons disrupted.
- Students have the right to have their opinions heard – at the appropriate time – providing this does not impinge on the first two rights above.
- Teachers have the right to have their instructions followed, as it is they who are responsible for ensuring that all students have access to learning at all times.

### 3. Responsibilities

With these rights comes the responsibility of all members of the school community to act in the best interests of staff and students alike. Teachers have a responsibility to discharge their duties to their full ability and always seek to improve their teaching. Students have a responsibility to ensure that they focus on learning at all times and to respect similar rights are held by others.

## 5. Rewards and sanctions

Our system of rewards includes:

- Verbal and written feedback and praise
- Special mentions for effort and academic work, e.g. assembly or commendations from the Principal
- Special mentions for commendable behaviour and / or community spirit, e.g. assembly or commendations from the Principal
- Communication with parents
- Recognition in school newsletters

Our system of sanctions includes:

- Verbal warnings
- Communication with parents
- Pastoral support programme
- Report card system (although usually a supportive measure rather than a punishment)
- Internal exclusion (supportive measures to reintegrate into class)
- External exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

The last three sanctions are very serious and so are implemented very rarely, and then only if confirmed by the Head of Key Stage (internal suspension only) or Principal. External exclusions and permanent exclusions are agreed by the Principal. Account is given of the student's age, any special educational needs or disability they may have and any religious requirements affecting them.

## 6. Dealing with behaviour incidents

When behaviour concerns are raised they are reported immediately and dealt with quickly. Incidents are investigated by the Head of Key Stage who checks in with teachers, students and parents and carers. Students are spoken to by the Head of Key Stage and Principal in ascending order and behaviour is closely monitored. Students may be moved to other classes if necessary or removed from the school as a final escalation. Bullying, cyberbullying and positive behaviour is covered extensively in PSHE units of study and revisited every year.

Incidents that occur within lessons will be dealt with in the first instance by the subject teacher; if misbehaviour continues or a more serious incident occurs, the student will be dealt with by the Head of Key Stage. Continued misbehaviour will be referred to the Principal.

Incidents that occur outside academic lessons, during tutorials, during breaks/lunchtime, through email exchanges or across a range of subjects, will be dealt with in the first instance by the member of staff who identifies the misbehaviour or Personal Tutor. This can escalate to the Head of Key Stage, who may then refer to the Principal.

## **7. Cameras in live lessons**

Wendover Online School understands that some students choose virtual schooling, from the comfort and safety of their home, because they live with anxiety and other mental health difficulties. However, we also believe that live interaction with teachers and other students is crucial to a student's learning journey and in time helps to develop their confidence, make them active learners and equip them for further study and life beyond education. We also believe that teachers can do their job to its fullest only by seeing and speaking with students. For these reasons, our expectation is that - unless there are agreed reasonable adjustments - pupils will attend all live lessons with their camera turned on and their full head and shoulders visible, suitably attired and facing forwards.

## **8. Inappropriate material and searching students' folders**

It is expected that students do not come to lessons with items deemed prohibited, this is for their own safety and for the safety of others in their vicinity. Items that are prohibited may include:

- Knives or weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs and stolen items;
- Tobacco and cigarette papers, fireworks and pornographic images;
- Any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to property;
- Any item, including digital sources banned by the school rules.

School staff can search students' digital folders to make sure that all material contained therein is associated with school work. Students' digital folders are not password protected to maintain transparency. All teachers have the responsibility to maintain the subject folders and ensure they only contain work that is current or stored from lessons.

Parents and carers will be informed where a search has revealed items that are not appropriate to be stored in the Wendover digital folders in Office 365.

Extreme or child pornography must always be handed over to the police. In the case of observation of weapons and knives, where confiscation is unrealistic, parents will immediately be informed.

## **9. Involvement and responsibility of parents and carers**

Parents and carers who accept a place for their child at Wendover Online School undertake to uphold the school's policies and regulations, including this policy. They will support the school's values in matters such as attendance and punctuality, being prepared with correct equipment, behaviour, dress and appearance, standards of academic work, extra-curricular activities and homework/private study.

Wendover will always contact home immediately in the case of an unexplained absence in order to make sure that your child has not suffered an accident. Please note we do not expect family holidays to be taken during term: if this is unavoidable, a written request must be submitted to the Principal in advance.

## **10. Involvement of the police**

If a student commits an act that may be deemed criminal, Wendover Online School will follow the guidance set out in the document '[When to Call the Police – Guidance for Schools and Colleges](#)'. A similar approach will be taken where students are located outside the UK, the local police will be contacted if required.

### **Policy review**

This policy is designed to set good practice standards. However, the school recognises that best practice develops over time and, as such, will update it regularly in light of experience and as a result of changes in legislation or its own internal organisation and policies. As with all Wendover policies, this policy will be reviewed according to our comprehensive policy review calendar.

Date of last review: August 2024

Date of next review: April 2026