



Ringwood School

14th December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Ref: Updated Policies

I am writing to let you know that a few of our policies have been updated this term and are now on our website, having been recently approved by our Governing Body: <https://www.ringwood.hants.sch.uk/policies/>.

Updated policies:

- Behaviour and Statement of Behaviour Principles Policy (2022)
- Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy (2022)
- Relationships and Sex Education Policy (2022)

Our Behaviour Policy has been updated to reflect the amendments to the Department for Education (DfE) 'Behaviour in Schools' guidance (September 2022) as well as the changes we have made over the last year to some of our procedures for following up misbehaviour in School (eg. formal warnings). I have endeavoured to keep you up-to-date as we have made those changes in School, and they have been informed by student, staff and parent feedback, so there should be no surprises, but please just get in touch if you have any questions. There are still some minor changes to come regarding rewards, as a result of recent whole school student voice and what students have told us they want as rewards, however I will write to you separately in the new year to let you know about these.

In updating the Behaviour Policy, we have made the decision to include all the detail that used to be in our separate 'Drugs and Alcohol Misuse Policy' within the Behaviour Policy, so it all sits in the one place. The Exclusions Policy used to sit as an Appendix in our Behaviour Policy, but we have made the decision for this to sit as a separate Policy, as it reflects the updated DfE's recently updated 'Suspension and Permanent Exclusion' guidance (September 2022) and is now a bit longer than it used to be.

In the Behaviour Policy, the section on searching and screening (section 7.7) has been updated in line with the DfE 'Behaviour in Schools' guidance and is significantly more detailed than it used to be, in large part as a result of the recent Child Q police investigation and report. This section now references our ability in school to use metal detectors to assist with a search. We have some metal detector wands that we may use if we suspect a student is in possession of a prohibited item, to ensure they and other students are kept safe on School site, however we will not be using them to routinely screen students (eg. on entry to school site).

The Relationships and Sex Education Policy now includes more detail on the topics covered on Sex and Relationships within PSHE lessons. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact our Personal Development and PSHE Lead, Mrs Lewis: vlewis@ringwood.hants.sch.uk.

As always, if you have any concerns or feedback regarding any of our policies, please do not hesitate get in touch so we can discuss these with you. With all three of these policies, our aim continues to be to keep our students safe, provide them with the knowledge and understanding they need to be successful, and to provide a calm and supportive environment where they can learn and thrive.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Heather Jolly
Assistant Headteacher