



# POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR POLICY

# Drumragh Integrated College

## **RATIONALE**

We aim for excellence in all aspects of our learning; academic, social and emotional, and recognise that everyone in our college, including visitors, are learners and are here to share in our experience.

**‘It should be the aim of every school to assist children to grow up knowing what is right and wrong; appreciating the needs of others and of the society around them’.**

**DfEE Circular: ‘Pupil Behaviour and Discipline’**

The students, staff, including support staff, and governors of Drumragh Integrated College acknowledge that good relationships and communication are central to good behaviour within the school. We are committed to developing and maintaining relationships which enhance mutual understanding and self-worth. In partnership with parents we seek to promote the highest standards of behaviour.

The staff recognise that good standards of classroom behaviour are promoted by positive teacher role-models and a teacher’s group management skills.

We are convinced that:

- Proactive schools have better behaviour.
- Schools with a strong sense of community have better behaviour.
- Schools with teacher collaboration have better behaviour.
- Schools which promote pupils autonomy have better behaviour.

## **PURPOSES**

The Positive Behaviour Policy supports the college aim that all students have access to a high standard of learning and teaching in a calm, purposeful and caring environment. It also fosters mutual respect and supports the development of self management skills necessary for adult life. This policy aims to highlight good behaviour and to seek ways of opening positive channels of communication with parents. We recognise the importance of ensuring achievements and positive contributions to the school community are celebrated.

The policy seeks to:

- create and maintain a calm and supportive school environment where effective learning and teaching can take place.
- highlight good behaviour.
- seek ways of opening positive channels of communication with parents.
- ensure achievements and positive contributions to the school community are celebrated.

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Behaviour management is based on:

- supporting and rewarding good behaviour.
- responding actively and firmly to unacceptable behaviour.
- raising the self-esteem of each student so that they can achieve their full potential.
- promoting effective learning for all students.
- supporting staff in their goal of teaching well.
- fostering self-respect and respect for others.

## **PRACTICE**

### **A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

This college believes that positive behaviour must be established in a safe environment where effective learning can take place. The possession and use of any form of drugs, including alcohol, solvents, cigarettes, lighters and matches are therefore strictly prohibited. Weapons and dangerous implements are also prohibited, and the college has a clear policy on the use of camera-phones. All forms of bullying, including cyber bullying, are also completely unacceptable.

### **EFFECTIVE LEARNING**

Good behaviour in the classroom means that each lesson will progress from start to finish, without unnecessary or unreasonable distraction(s). Every student has a legal right to be educated; but when a student fails to meet the minimum required standards of behaviour the college may impose sanctions.

### **PROMOTION OF SELF DISCIPLINE AND SELF ESTEEM**

Our intention is to create a college ethos where all students are valued and value themselves. Every opportunity will be given to enhance students' self-esteem through all aspects of the curriculum, pastoral support and through relationships within the college.

### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Members of staff will have access to training, personal development and support to ensure the best possible classroom management. Staff are encouraged to employ the Drumragh College model of Teaching and Learning to ensure best practice in lessons.

### **UNIFORM**

All students must come to college wearing the full college uniform correctly. Parents of students who contravene this rule may be contacted and uniform detentions or other appropriate sanctions may be imposed.

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## BEHAVIOUR WHEN WEARING COLLEGE UNIFORM OUTSIDE THE COLLEGE

Students are expected to behave in an exemplary manner while wearing the college uniform, in a way which brings credit to themselves and the college.

## COLLEGE and PERSONAL PROPERTY

It is emphasised that proper care must be taken at all times of books, equipment and our college buildings. Appropriate sanctions may be imposed against those who are found to have damaged college property in any way.

## COLLEGE COMMUNITY

Students are expected to show respect to all members of the college staff, community and their peers.

## THE ROLE OF THE SUBJECT TEACHER

The role of the subject teacher is to ensure orderly behaviour during the period of lessons to enable productive teaching and learning to take place; to encourage and promote acceptable conduct on entering and leaving class and in the college environment in general. Every teacher must take responsibility for the behaviour of students in their classroom and around them wherever they are in the college to ensure students have the opportunity to learn effectively.

## THE ROLE OF THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

The role of the Head of Department is to aid and support the class teacher in his/her efforts to create a productive learning environment and to liaise with the Form Teacher/Head of Year in relation to the behaviour of disruptive or underachieving students within that subject area. The Head of Department should also seek opportunities to celebrate student achievement and promote links with parents.

## THE ROLE OF THE FORM TEACHER

The Form Teacher is the focal point of the child's college life. He/she provides liaison with subject teachers, Head of Year, SENCo, Senior Teachers, Vice Principal, Principal, parents and where appropriate outside agencies. The Form Teacher's role in Target Setting is central to ensuring students reach their personal potential.

## THE ROLE OF THE HEAD OF YEAR

The Head of Year is very much involved in the area of positive behaviour and maintenance of standards within the year group to support student achievement. He/she co-ordinates the work of the Pastoral team in the year group and consults with Senior Teachers, Vice Principal, Principal, parents

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and outside agencies. The Head of Year has a key role in the tracking and monitoring of students' progress within the year group and in identifying opportunities to celebrate student achievement.

### THE ROLE OF THE SENCo

The Senco's role is pivotal in supporting students with Social, Emotional and Behavioural concerns to reach their potential in a positive learning environment.

### THE ROLE OF SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Members of the Senior Leadership Team will take an active role in overseeing and maintaining positive behaviour within the college, at all times. Members of SLT may support students by monitoring their progress through the Student Report Book and assisting with target setting and tracking and monitoring procedures.

### THE ROLE OF THE SENIOR TEACHER (Pastoral)/VICE PRINCIPAL

With the support of the Vice Principal, the role of the Senior Teacher (Pastoral) is to provide support for the Head of Year and Form Teachers and co-ordinate a form/plan of action to deal with any behavioural issues regarding students. He/she also oversees all matters concerning Pastoral policy and practice throughout the college, including establishing close links between the academic and pastoral paths within the college to facilitate student achievement.

### THE ROLE OF THE PRINCIPAL

The Principal will take an active role in recognising and celebrating achievement both in and outside the classroom. He has overall responsibility for the effective management of the Positive Behaviour Policy within the college and in addition to liaising with parents will also consult with the Board of Governors on such matters.

### THE ROLE OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is responsible for approving and amending, where necessary, the Positive Behaviour Policy within the college. They are also responsible for supporting the more serious levels of discipline within the college and for implementing the final stages of the expulsion procedure.

### PARENTAL CONTACT

The college appreciates its close contact with parents and actively encourages parental support at all times. To encourage this support, parents and students will be asked to use the Student Planner as an effective means of communication, including annually completing items from the Student Planners i.e. Code of Conduct, Using Images of Children, General Consent

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Form and the E-safety policies. In cases of unacceptable behaviour parents will be contacted and, if necessary, invited into the college to meet with the relevant members of staff, the designated senior teacher and/or another appropriated member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Parents will also be informed of their children's positive contributions to college life and individual success on a regular basis and invited to share in the target setting process to promote further student improvement.

### ANTI-BULLYING

The behaviour policy and practice acknowledges the right of students to be educated in a well-ordered and calm atmosphere, free from aggression and/or disruption by other students. The college will not tolerate for example -

- Physical violence towards another person
- Verbal violence – threats/insults/name-calling
- Exclusion of students socially/isolation
- Cyber bullying including text or internet based bullying.

If a child feels bullied in college the matter can best be dealt with if a member of staff is informed immediately. Reports of bullying will always be taken seriously and incidents will be dealt with as quickly as possible to minimise distress for the students involved. Sanctions will be imposed as appropriate.

For specific information please refer to the Anti Bullying Policy.

### REWARDS

Good behaviour, academic achievement and compliance with the college rules will be acknowledged by various systems that the college operates at an individual or class level.

With behaviour the emphasis will be on the positive approach of encouragement and praise, whilst imposing sanctions where appropriate.

Praise and encouragement can take many forms. Some examples are:

- Merit stickers
- Merit stamps
- Positive feedback to student(s)
- Praise as often as possible
- Positive comments in the Student Planner/exercise book etc
- Praise for the whole class
- Departmental rewards, including use of Department Postcards
- Positive certificates
- Public acknowledgement at assemblies, or Celebration of Success evenings
- A letter/ postcard home from the Form Teacher, Year Head or Senior Leadership Team as appropriate
- Certificates presented at Celebration Assemblies

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## SANCTIONS

Students must learn to take responsibility for their own learning and its outcomes. This must involve active support from parents. The following areas contribute to this:

- Regular attendance and punctuality
- Being organised for class and having homework done well
- Bringing all necessary equipment including their PE uniform.
- Acceptable and positive standards of behaviour.

A range of appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that these standards are maintained. A distinction will be made between casual/minor offences and persistent more serious offences.

## SUSPENSION

- Where a student is suspended from college for an initial or extended period of time the college will notify -
  - I. The parent/guardian of the reasons for and the duration of the suspension
  - II. The Chairman of the Board of Governors
  - III. The designated WELB officer.
- The college will regard students on suspension as being the responsibility of the parent/guardian throughout the suspension period specified.
- Parents will receive a letter giving full details of the suspension, if at all possible, on the same day as the suspension is commenced.
- During periods of suspension of more than one day, work will be available for collection from the college.

A period of suspension may extend to five days. Students can be suspended up to 45 days in a college year.

Appropriate documentation relating to suspension will be put in the student's file.

## IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

This may be imposed for -

- I. Verbal and/or physical abuse to any student/teacher or member of the college/community.
- II. Bullying of any kind.
- III. Deliberate serious damage to college property.
- IV. Use of illegal substances on college property.
- V. Smoking on college property or while representing the college.
- VI. Inappropriate use of personal electronic devices.
- VII. Dangerous behaviour.

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## EXPULSION

- Expulsion is the final sanction. When expulsion is deemed appropriate, the college Expulsion Policy will be followed.
- For detailed explanations of suspension and expulsion, the college policy on these measures should be obtained.

Detailed information on suspensions and expulsions can be found in the Suspension and Expulsion Policy.

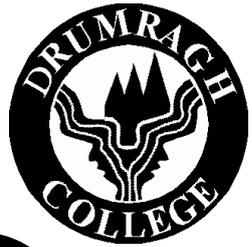
***Drumragh Integrated College endeavours to ensure that every child's right to be educated is fulfilled, but this must not happen at the expense of other students' learning and well being.***

## REVIEW

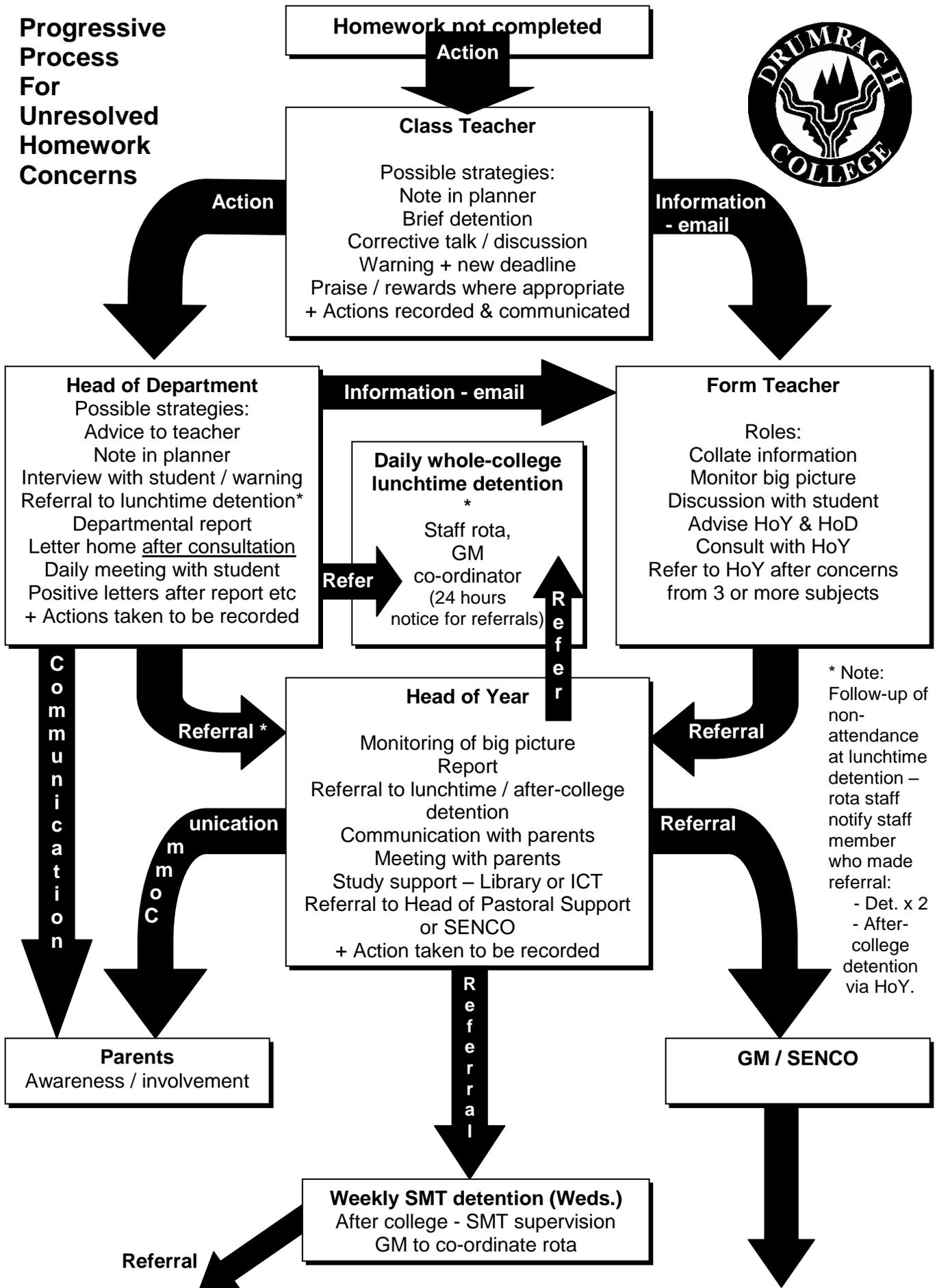
The policy will be regularly reviewed as part of the policy review cycle.

Chairperson of Board of Governors \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Progressive Process For Unresolved Homework Concerns**



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