

Behaviour Policy



King's College
The British School of Panama

1. Introduction

King's College is a community where the individual matters and we set ourselves the highest standards of behaviour, in dealing with each other. 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 pupils, who are motivated to become life-long learners. We understand that consistently good behaviour is central to our commitment to the welfare and safety of all our pupils, and we understand that to flourish young people need clear and consistent boundaries where positive behaviours are praised and encouraged, whilst negative actions are dealt with appropriately.

King's College is an inclusive community. We welcome pupils from a wide variety of ethnic and social backgrounds and faiths. We treat everyone as an individual and aim to develop the whole person so that they might be equipped to take their place in the modern world. In particular, we encourage our pupils to embrace internationalism and understand the role that they might play in becoming responsible global citizens.

2. Aims

It is the aim of this policy to support the 5 outcomes of *Every Child Matters*:

- **Being Healthy** – we aim to promote children's mental health and well being and keep them free from bullying or oppressive behaviour.
- **Staying Safe** – we aim to create a safe and secure environment so that all learners can achieve their full potential.
- **Enjoying and Achieving** – we aim to minimise potential disruption to lessons and school life so that all can take full advantage of the opportunities offered both inside and outside the classroom.
- **Making a Positive Contribution** – we encourage positive behaviour in the community which shows respect for others.
- **Achieving Economic Well Being** – we aim to provide pupils with the preparatory life skills of self-discipline and taking responsibility for actions to enable independent living and economic well-being.

3. The Code of Conduct, Core Values and Golden Rules

The King's College community of the School Advisory Board, staff, parents and pupils adhere to a Code of Conduct, rather than simply to lists of rules. We see education as a partnership and our staff are committed to excellence, aiming to achieve a spirit of trust and cooperation. We expect the highest values and standards of behaviour inside and outside the classroom, as well as outside the College and in any written or electronic communication concerning the College.

The College expects all pupils to treat all staff, members of the school community and each other with consideration and good manners, in line with our Code of Conduct. In particular,

we would expect our pupils to respond confidently to the demands of College life and to make every effort to contribute in a positive and productive manner. The College's 'Golden Rules' in the Primary School and 'Core Values' in the Secondary School, alongside the fulfilment of academic potential, are at the heart of our aims for our pupils, and expected behaviours run in parallel with the values that we seek to engender, nurture and reward. We believe that our students will ultimately be better equipped to succeed in their lives beyond school if we allow them opportunities to develop and apply these values.

Everyone has a right to feel secure and to be treated with respect, particularly the vulnerable. Harassment and bullying will not be tolerated. Our Anti-bullying Policy is publicly available via our webpage. The College is strongly committed to promoting equal opportunities for all, regardless of race, sexual orientation, gender or physical disability.

We expect pupils to be ready to learn and participate in College activities. They should attend College and lessons punctually, adhere to the College routines and follow the College attendance policy. Pupils are expected to care for their environment and behave in a manner that reflects the best interests of the whole community.

4. Involvement of Parents and Guardians

Parents and Guardians who accept a place for their child at King's College undertake to uphold the College's policies and regulations. They will support the College's values in matters such as attendance and punctuality, behaviour, uniform and appearance, standards of academic work, homework, private study and extra curricular activities such as music, drama, sport, skills and service activities.

The College will always make contact with parents or guardians on the first day of an unexplained absence in order to make sure that their child is safe. Please note that it is the policy of the College to allow holidays to be taken during term only in very unusual circumstances. Any request should be made, in writing, to the Head Teacher.

The College warmly welcome Parents and Guardians to attend events, assisting in educational visits and sporting fixtures both at and away from the College. Parents should remain supportive of all participants and it is expected that they should also remain supportive of staff who may adjudicate, coach or referee teams and fixtures.

5. Involvement of Pupils

Good and bad behaviour is to be discussed and reinforced through the involvement of pupils within Tutor groups, PSHE sessions, by individual members of staff in lessons and through extra-curricular activities. At the beginning of each term pupils are involved in activities and discussions highlighting all behavioural expectations. The Student School Council, Assemblies and House meetings are also opportunities for the College to listen to constructive suggestions from the pupil body. The pupil handbooks provide useful guidelines towards positive behaviour.

6. College Rules and Regulations

The College's rules and regulations are designed to encourage positive behaviour as outlined in the Rewards and Sanctions Policy. Its sanctions are to help the College to manage challenging behaviour. Copies of the Rules and Regulations are available to parents on request and may be subject to change from time to time. Parents and Guardians undertake to support the authority of the Head Teacher in enforcing them in a fair manner that is designed to safeguard the welfare of the community as a whole.

The Head Teacher, or those she delegates to, undertakes to apply any sanctions fairly, and, where appropriate, after due investigative action has taken place. Sanctions may undergo reasonable change occasionally, but will not involve any form of unlawful or degrading activity.

7. Teaching and Learning

King's College aims to raise the aspirations of all its pupils and to help them appreciate that there are no barriers to their potential achievements both inside and outside of the classroom. Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and the first point in the Code of Conduct states, "King's College is a community where every individual has the right to learn as effectively as possible and to make the very most of their time within the school." As such, the correct standards of behaviour are central to maximising the learning potential in our classrooms. Our teaching staff offer every child a high level of individual attention, together with consistent and helpful advice. In return, we expect every child to cooperate, work hard and to respect the rights of their fellow pupils to do the same.

8. Complaints

During their time within our community, we hope that neither parents nor pupils have any complaints about the operation of our Behaviour Policy. If however, they do copies of the College's Complaints Procedure can be forwarded to you upon request.

The policies (or guidance documents) below run in tandem with, or expand upon, this Behaviour Policy:

- Anti-bullying Policy
- Safeguarding (Child Protection)
- The Code of Conduct and Core Values
- Teaching and Learning
- Aims and Ethos
- Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Abuse Policy
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy
- Rewards and Sanctions
- Welfare
- Professional Conduct (Guidance for Staff)
- Complaints Procedure for Parents & Guardians
- Complaints Procedure for Pupils

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