



Thorndon Park Primary School

Learning today for the future

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Thorndon Park Primary School's behaviour support policy guides:

- the behaviour we expect of children and young people
- how staff, parents and carers will support positive behaviour
- the safe inclusion of children and young people.

Thorndon Park Primary School's policy aligns with the Department for Education [behaviour support policy](#).

About behaviours

Children and young people's behaviours fall along a continuum. This means behaviour can range from safe to unsafe.

Range of behaviours

- Positive, inclusive and respectful behaviours.
- Developmentally appropriate boundary testing. This behaviour can interrupt learning but can be redirected.
- Behaviours that cause concern due to their severity, frequency and duration. This behaviour significantly interrupts learning and needs consistent guidance and support.
- Complex and unsafe behaviour which can place children, their peers and others in danger.

All along the continuum, the policy and practice approach is proactive, consistent, responsive and tailored to the child or young person's needs.

How we implement the department's policy

We will support the safe inclusion of children and young people in learning with these actions.

Promote

We will promote, model and support productive and positive behaviour.

Our actions

- Promote a school wide positive behaviour approach based on our core values of Respect, Resilience, Excellence and Creativity.
- Develop and model consistent behavioural expectations across all classes and share these with students, parents and carers.

Teach

We will explicitly teach positive behaviour and expectations about behaviour.

Our actions

- Create predictable routines in the learning environment that guide students in how to positively participate in their learning.
- Teach children and young people self and social awareness, as well as, strategies to self-manage their behaviour when engaging with others.

Intervene

We will intervene to prevent, reduce or redirect behaviours of concern. We will use methods that are the least exclusionary possible.

Our actions

- Staff use proactive strategies to co-regulate students to prevent behaviours of concern.
- Withdrawal spaces are provided for students to use as needed and are supervised by an educator. The educator supports children and young people to feel safe and calm and return to their learning environment when they are ready.

Work with others

We will work with children, their families, professionals and other key adults to understand the environmental, social and family context of a child or young person's behaviour. We will draw on these people to support positive behaviour change.

Our actions

- Value children and young people's perspectives. Seek their ideas when developing behaviour supports and interventions.
- Engage children, young people and families to understand possible reasons for behaviour.

Respond

We will respond to behaviour visibly and fairly. Responses will help grow confidence and trust.

Our actions

- Promptly investigate concerns about behavioural incidents. Understand the nature of the incident and the experience of the incident by those involved.
- Apply accepted and evidence-based behaviour responses that are tailored to student's circumstances. Take special measures for children with disability or additional needs, children in care and Aboriginal children.
- Document planned behaviour support responses in Behaviour Support Plans, Safety and Risk Management Plans and/or One Plans.

Repair and restore relationships

We will repair and restore relationships harmed by behaviours of concern.

Our actions

- Children and young people who have acted inappropriately recognise the impact of their actions. They have the chance to apologise and to repair and restore relationships when appropriate, safe and consented to by all parties.

Create safety and wellbeing

We will create safety and wellbeing for people involved in behaviour incidents.

Our actions

- Provide strategies to reduce the risk of harm to children, young people and staff following behavioural incidents.
- Refer children, young people, staff and others who have been harmed by unsafe behaviours to counselling or other support.
- Engage department supports when responding to serious incidents and use suspension as a last resort strategy if immediate safety is required.

Behaviours of concern

Behaviours of concern:

- are challenging, complex or unsafe behaviours
- are more serious, happen more often or last a long time
- significantly interrupt learning for the child or others
- could put the child or others in danger
- need consistent guidance and support.

Behaviours that disrupt learning or safety will always receive a response that considers:

- the needs of the child or young person with behaviours of concern
- other people's rights to learning and safety.

How we respond to behaviours of concern

At Thorndon Park Primary School we use specific responses to behaviours of concern.

Educator responses

- Provide quality differentiated teaching practice. This is a way to meet each child and young person's learning styles and needs. For example, the teacher plans ahead to clearly teach values and safe and inclusive behaviours.
- Create plans that support positive behaviour change. Partner with parents, carers and others to do this.
- Provide time and space for students to self-regulate with appropriate support and supervision. This might include brain breaks, calming activities (e.g. reading or listening to music), sitting in a quiet space, physical activity (e.g. running or shooting hoops) or using an Interoception space and/or Interoception activities.
- Interrupt behaviours of concern. Name and describe behaviours to help students understand what they are doing that is problematic. Use school values to redirect students to the preferred behaviour.
- Use logical consequences related to the behaviour. Use them if a student is unable to engage in the preferred behaviour with support matched to the student's individual needs.

Leader responses

- Monitor behaviour. Act on any reports about behaviour of concern. This includes incidents that happen out of hours or off-site that impact relationships at Thorndon Park Primary School.

- Consider the use of suspension and exclusion from school to support safety. This is after we consider all other options to reduce danger.
- Report criminal offences to the police.
- Provide leadership and/or external assistance to facilitate restorative processes (including re-connection meetings) where staff and students directly involved require impartial assistance to resolve the issues.

Department level responses

- Negotiate other learning options away from school to make sure the school community is safe. This is after we consider other options to reduce danger.
- Support staff and local leadership in how they respond to a child or young person.

Responsibilities

Children and young people

- Treat others with kindness, respect and inclusiveness.
- Make sure their actions are safe, respectful and inclusive. This includes verbal, physical and online actions.
- Seek help from adults to intervene when they see behaviours of concern in person or online.
- Report behaviours of concern to: Classroom Teachers, Specialist Teachers, Yard Duty Teachers, SSOs and members of Leadership.
- Follow school values and abide by negotiated classroom and yard behaviour expectations so others can play and learn without interference.
- Respecting school spaces and property (for example, putting rubbish in the bin, using toilets responsibly, looking after sports equipment and class resources).

Parent and carer

- Report any child or young person's concerning or unsafe behaviour to teachers, leadership or Front Office Staff.
- If an incident happens, work collaboratively with us to resolve concerns.
- Follow the complaint resolution process to deal with concerns. A copy of the complaint resolution process is on our website or in our front office.
- Show and encourage safe, respectful and inclusive relationships with their own children; other children; other parents and carers and staff.
- Support their children to develop safe behaviours at home. Check on and supervise their children's social interactions, including online.
- Maintain open and prompt communication with teachers to ensure the best possible outcomes for all children.
- Know about our behaviour support policy and procedure. Know how to identify and report behaviours that are concerning or unsafe.
- Calmly make contact and communicate respectfully with leaders, teachers and staff when requiring clarification of behaviour issues.
- Make sure their children attend school while a behaviour issue is being resolved.
- Seek external professional support for their children as required.
- Do not approach other children or parents about behaviours of concern. Report to teachers and/or leadership for follow up.
- Understand that, because of confidentiality, we cannot share information about other children.
- Support your child's safety and well-being (for example adequate sleep, diet, age appropriate social media, games and online media content etc...).