

THORPE HALL SCHOOL

EYFS - Behaviour and Discipline Policy

This policy represents the agreed principles for behaviour and discipline throughout the Nursery and Reception. All Nursery and Reception staff representing Thorpe Hall School have agreed this policy.

Aims and expectations

Staff and students at The Thorpe Hall School have an open culture that promotes consideration, empathy and respect. Collaboration between staff and students is integral and every student is encouraged to become self-assured, confident learners who have excellent behaviour for learning and are proud of their achievements and their school. By encouraging the right attitudes to learning we also enable our students to participate fully in school and the local community and equip them with a mind-set to be successful in the next stage of education. The Nursery and Reception's behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the Nursery and Reception can live and work together in a supportive way. It seeks to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure and to support the key aims outlined below:

We aim to work towards a situation in which children can develop self-discipline and self-esteem, where their respect for others to ensure everyone knows what is expected of them and children are free to develop their learning in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement. The Room Leaders are responsible for behaviour management issues in the Nursery School and Mrs Markham in Reception – they are supported in their work by the Co-Heads of Prep and the SEND Team.

In order to achieve this at Thorpe Hall School:

The nursery uses a range of developmentally appropriate strategies to support children's behaviour, including positive reinforcement, modelling, praise, encouragement, and planned distraction. Strong and consistent relationships between nursery and home further promote children's emotional security and behavioural development.

All adults caring for children in Thorpe Hall School will ensure that the ideas of the Nursery school and Reception are applied consistently, so those children have the security of knowing what to expect and can build up useful habits of behaviour. It has to be remembered that we are not born knowing how to share and play co-operatively and the children need not only to be told but also to learn by example.

All adults will be a positive role model for children with regard to friendliness, care and courtesy. We praise the children constantly for positive behaviour. The Nursery School and Reception expects every member of their community to behave in a considerate way towards others.

Adults in the Nursery School and Reception praise and encourage positive behaviours such as kindness, cooperation, and sharing. EYFS staff use reward stickers to recognise good behaviour. Thorpe Hall School promotes positive behaviour through consistent encouragement and rewards, fostering an ethos of kindness, respect, and cooperation.

Adults will not raise their voice in a threatening way. As a team we will take positive steps to avoid a situation in which children receive adult attention only in return for undesirable behaviour.

Adults will make themselves aware of, and respect, a range of cultural expectations regarding interactions between people.

When children behave in unacceptable ways:

In any case of misbehaviour, it will always be made clear to the child or children in question it is that the behaviour and not the child that is unwelcome.

Our EYFS children are given 3 opportunities to show appropriate behaviour. In the unlikely situation of this unwanted behaviour continuing, they are given a period of supported 'Calm down' in a safe space with a trusted adult, with the parents being informed about the inappropriate behaviour at the end of the session/day.

Staff in the Nursery School and Reception keep records of individual incidents of misbehaviour for their key children. Minor incidents are noted by the nursery staff, and any recurring or persistent behaviours are recorded in the *Behaviour Record Book*. These records are shared daily at the end of each session with the child's parents and if there are safeguarding concerns, with the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

In rare circumstances where a child's behaviour presents a risk of harm to themselves, other children, or staff, parents may be asked to collect the child to ensure everyone's safety and wellbeing. If a child is frequently struggling to manage their behaviour, the nursery will work in partnership with the family to review the child's needs, consider adjustments (including temporary reduction of hours if appropriate), and develop an individualised support or risk-assessment plan. Where necessary, a behaviour support agreement will be created jointly with parents to promote consistency between home and nursery.

In case of serious behaviour such as bullying, racial or other abuse, the unacceptability of the behaviour and attitudes will be made clear immediately, but by means of explanations rather than personal blame. This should be explained to parents at the end of the session.

We always encourage children to say they are sorry.

Techniques intended to single out and humiliate individual children such as a 'naughty chair' will not be used. Children will never be left unattended in any situation.

Adults will be aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a special educational need (SEN); to support this, practitioners may implement an individual Support plan (ISP), and they will be given one to one support and work together to resolve behaviour issues.

Physical punishment such as smacking or shaking will never be used nor threatened.

The role of parents

The Nursery School and Reception collaborate actively with parents, so that children receive consistent messages about how to behave at home and at school.

Monitoring and review

This policy is designed to support children in growing within a safe and nurturing environment, helping them become positive, responsible, and increasingly independent members of the Nursery and Reception community. Its purpose is to promote and encourage good behaviour rather than simply discourage anti-social conduct.

The Nursery School and Reception staff will monitor the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis and report to the management team on the effectiveness of the policy and, if necessary, make recommendations for further improvements.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

Latest review date:	February 2026
Policy approved:	February 2026
Next review date:	February 2027