



# BIS Student Behavior Policy

Last Reviewed: September 2021

# BIS STUDENT BEHAVIOUR POLICY

## INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

The British International School and Montessori Education, Freetown expects high standards of behaviour from its students. These standards are modelled by the adults that work in the school and students are expected to follow their example. Students are expected to be responsible to themselves and to others in all aspects of their lives. At school, this involves behaving in ways which enable themselves and their peers to learn effectively.

## AIMS

In accordance with British Learner attributes and school wide learning goals, by upholding high expectations of behaviour, BIS aims to ensure that every individual is recognised as a valued member of the school and that an environment is established that enables students to:

- Be thoughtful: respectful, sensitive, and polite to others
- Be aware of their own rights - and their responsibilities
- Be a team player and know that their behaviour has consequences for themselves and others
- Feel safe, respected, and cared for
- Feel able to take risks and relish challenges to learn
- Be self-assured

## IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Reinforcing expectations

Throughout the school individual classes generate classroom rules. These are the behaviours required to be an effective learner, to be a responsible citizen and to ensure the health and well-being of the school community.

Consequences are made clear regarding inappropriate behaviour that does not meet the school's expectations. All members of staff promote positive behaviour, through the public and private recognition of what is good, in a variety of ways:

- Through verbal or written praise
- Display of work or effort
- Star of the Week
- Informal gestures
- Verbal acknowledgement
- Giving extra responsibility or jobs
- Visit to another member of staff
- Improvement Assembly
- Email or verbal feedback to parents
- Work published in newsletters and the website

### Consequences and procedures

There will be occasions when correction of behaviour is necessary. BIS operates a consistent approach to the way this is done. Its teaching and support staff are empowered to create a just, secure, and happy teaching and learning environment. They consistently deal with all forms of negative behaviour following two over-riding rules:

**Be calm:** Students are dealt with **calmly** and **firmly**, referring to the inappropriate behaviour (rather than the child), and explaining clearly why action is being taken, and what that action is.

**Fresh start:** Although persistent or serious misbehavior needs recording, every student can feel that each day is a fresh start. Any discipline is applied fairly, and the consequences fully explained.

There is a stepped approach to consequences which are identified to the students. The consequences and procedures followed depend upon the severity of the behaviour and will involve different staff members accordingly. Students for whom this majority approach is not appropriate have an individual plan detailing an alternative provision.

In very severe cases, a student may be suspended from school for a fixed period of time. The student is allowed to return to school, only if the student and their parents are prepared to rectify the behaviour and ensure it is not repeated.

In very extreme cases, a student may be permanently excluded from the school. In these extreme cases, representative members of the Board of Trustees would be involved in the decision. There is, of course, a clear process of appeal (outlined in our Complaints Procedure).

## IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL

### Reinforcing expectations

- Praise: verbal praise is used by all staff to indicate and reinforce success
- House Points: these are used by teachers to reward a particularly good piece of work or effort, or other positive or praiseworthy behaviour. House points are recorded in the homework diary.
- Achievement certificates: these are awarded at the end of each term, for highest effort, attainment and house point totals.
- Colours: for very significant achievement and commitment to sport, students may receive colours (half or full). The PE department sets out and manages the criteria and awarding of colours. Houses are also in a position to award colours.

## CONSEQUENCES AND PROCEDURES

When negative or anti-social behaviour occurs, it is challenged by staff. In many cases a verbal warning will suffice.

If unsatisfactory behaviour persists, a student may be given detention (or other appropriate immediate sanction) or issued a report card for a period of time. In more serious cases, the Tutor and Head of House will call a meeting with parents to discuss the issues and agree on the action to be taken. A student contract may be drawn up as part of this meeting.

BIS Secondary runs a ladder of intervention which includes detentions. These are run by Year Leaders or, in more serious cases, by the Director of Studies. In a limited number of extreme cases, the Principal may impose an internal exclusion, a fixed-term external exclusion or a permanent exclusion (ratified by the Trustees). In such cases there is, of course, a clear process of appeal (outlined in our Complaints Procedure).

## REVIEW DATES

This policy is effective from: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and supersedes all previous policies regarding disciplinary. This policy is due for review and republication on: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022.