DRAFT
(subject to ratification by the school Governors)

Sixth Form

Behaviour Policy

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POLICY REQUIREMENT	STATUTORY		

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POLICY

AIMS

To explain how The Fallibroome Academy Sixth Form manages all aspects of behaviour amongst its student body.

WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THIS VERSION

Sixth Form policy updated to match the terminology used in the main school version.

Fixed Term Exclusions changed to Suspensions.

List of other relevant documents added.

Wording about confiscation and search added.

OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

Sixth Form Code of Conduct

Acceptable use of IT policy

Drug policy

Managing aggressive behaviour policy

Use of reasonable force policy

Dress code documentation

The Sixth Form at Fallibroome

RATIONALE

The majority of Sixth Form students behave impeccably, are ambitious and want to achieve, largely as a result of having chosen to remain in education and at Fallibroome. We believe that we are very fortunate to work in an environment with such a positive culture, and that the Sixth Form have a key role to play in creating this culture through being outstanding ambassadors and role models, contributing to a culture where all students feel safe, happy and secure.

On rare occasions, however, a Sixth Form student may behave in such a way that they interrupt their own learning and progress, disrupt the learning or wellbeing and safety of others, create problems and issues for teaching staff, or make an ill-informed decision that has very serious consequences.

Our aim is never to have to ask a Sixth Form student to leave the school and we will do everything we can to prevent this, especially at a time when the challenges of the transition to independence and adulthood are particularly prevalent. This policy sets out our expectations, and the course of action that can follow a disciplinary issue.

RECOGNITION AND REWARDS

Positive recognition and reward play a crucial part in ensuring students feel valued and are recognised for their positive contributions. In the Sixth Form, recognition is achieved through:

1. Receiving a Commendation which is emailed to the student by the member of staff and recorded on the spreadsheet shared with Heads of Year and Tutors.
2. Emails home or mentions in assembly from the Heads of Year and wider Sixth Form Team.
3. Meetings with the Sixth Form Team.
4. A level Certificate Evening in Y13 and other awards evenings.

Student Leadership Teams

Student Leadership Teams exist to give students opportunities to develop their own communication and leadership skills and to help them make a positive contribution to life in the Sixth Form and the wider school.

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Students within the Sixth Form are considered young adults who should set a model of good behaviour for students in younger years. As such, they are considered to be able to make informed choices about their conduct.

In Lesson Concerns

Teaching staff will issue Referrals via a Google Form link for any students who persistently or regularly cause concerns or problems. For example, problems with:

Meeting deadlines

Organisation

Attitude to staff and students

Incomplete homework

Punctuality

Attendance

Poor class work

Misuse of mobile phone

Dress code

Heads of Year keep a record of referrals received and actions taken which are discussed regularly at Sixth Form team briefings and followed through with students and parents.

Form tutor role

Form tutors follow up on dress code via the dress code referral system outlined in the Dress Code documents.

SUSPENSIONS

Suspensions will be used in the circumstances described below:

As per the main school behaviour policy there may be circumstances where a student is suspended for a fixed term from Sixth Form. Some examples of behaviour likely to lead to suspension may include:

- Persistent defiance
- Abusive language that is directed at a member of staff
- Aggressive / threatening behaviour / assault / fighting / bullying
- Damaging school property / vandalism
- Bringing inappropriate materials / substances into school
- Any anti-social behaviour that is directed towards a member of staff, even if this occurs outside school hours
- Incidents of sexual assault or persistent sexual harassment. Note that we would regard voyeurism, upskirting or similar as sexual assault.
- Incidents of racism

Following suspensions, parents / carers will be expected to attend a formal scheduled readmission meeting.

PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS

As per the main school behaviour policy, we will permanently exclude students who demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics:

- persistently poor standards of behaviour, particularly for the more serious issues listed above (defiance; confrontational attitude; abusive language; physical aggression; damaging school property; inappropriate substances; anti-social behaviour towards staff)
- no credible or sustained attempt to correct their behaviour
- little or no remorse for their actions
- a lack of engagement with the additional support and guidance packages that have been provided for them
- an indifference to the school's expectations and standards

Students will be at high risk of permanent exclusion for single offences of the following nature:

- bringing a weapon, or something that could be considered to be a weapon, into school
- conducting a premediated and/ or serious assault on another student
- taking part in a fight with another student that leads to serious physical harm
- assaulting a member of staff
- significant and deliberate damage to school property, or a serious attempt to cause such damage

- bringing drugs or other illegal / inappropriate substances into school, particularly if the intention is to supply others
- Incidents of sexual assault or persistent sexual harassment. Note that we would regard voyeurism, upskirting or similar as sexual assault.

OFF-SITE AND ONLINE BEHAVIOUR

The school reserves the right to sanction poor behaviour, even if this occurs outside school hours and off the school premises. This is particularly true when our students are:

- travelling to and from school
- engaged in an off-site school activity
- in sixth form dress code
- in some other way identifiable as a student of our school

If a serious incident arises in a public area outside school hours but does not meet these criteria, we will advise parents to contact the police and we will support these enquiries fully. The school may still choose to apply its own serious sanctions if the incident in question:

- could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- poses an ongoing threat to another student or member of our community
- could adversely affect the reputation of the school

The school will take an active interest in any online abuse that is sent to any member of our community. We will regard such behaviour as a school matter and will apply sanctions accordingly.

Serious sanctions will follow if any member of our staff is subject to offensive behaviour outside school hours and/or off the school premises.

MOBILE DEVICES

Mobile devices can be enormously useful in lessons as well as helping students to be organised and stay on top of their work. It can also be very helpful for our students to have easy contact with home during extra-curricular activities and school trips. As such, phones have not banned entirely from our site.

At the same time, the inappropriate use of mobile phones, etc. can be a real problem in all schools. We know that some students use their phone to mock, tease or harass others. We have

seen incidents where a small minority of students use their phones to encourage each other to behave poorly. Occasionally, students have used their phone to record events for wholly inappropriate use. We have also seen disputes that have started at home spill over into school largely because of the use of social media. These negative aspects of mobile phone use are serious and point to the need for us to control their use very carefully.

We also have real concerns about the way in which mobile devices isolate our students from each other and inhibit the development of their social skills. We want our students to talk to each other and develop the conversation skills that are so important to their development. While we recognise that mobile phones can really help to build social networks and friendship groups outside school time, we don't think that this is necessary during the school day.

In light of these issues, we have adopted the following approach to the use of mobile phones, smart watches and other mobile devices in our school:

- Sixth Form students are allowed to bring their devices into school and can use them within the Sixth Form Centre and Café.
- Students can use their devices in lessons and on school events, but only with the permission of their teacher.
- Phones, earphones and other wires should not be visible as students are moving around school.
- Students who do not comply with these expectations will receive a warning / referral.

We reserve the right to ask students to hand in their phone during the school day or to ban them from bringing their phone into school.

VULNERABLE STUDENTS

We recognise that some students struggle to manage their own behaviour and emotions. This is particularly true for students with conditions such as ADHD or autism. However, we also know that these students have the best chance of success when behaviour expectations are clearly explained to them and when these expectations are applied consistently by all staff. We have consequently ensured that all of our staff are fully trained in the application of this policy so that our most vulnerable students do not have to cope with variations and inconsistencies that they do not understand.

We also offer in-house pastoral support and access to professional counselling service to support students with mental health issues, or those who are trying to cope with personal crises.

When students have specific issues with regard to the management of their own behaviour and these are specifically highlighted in their EHCP, we will look closely at the possibility of making additional adjustments to help them manage their behaviour successfully. External professional advice will be sought to support these decisions where appropriate. The school will also monitor the sanctions issued to such students closely so that any trends can be

reviewed and further adjustments can be considered.

School staff are also aware that students demonstrating concerning behaviour may potentially be suffering abuse or harm.

BULLYING

While bullying is very rare at Fallibroome, we have developed a comprehensive and effective 'Anti Bullying Policy' that can be found on our website.

SEARCHING AND CONFISCATION

Fallibroome follows the DFE's guidance: 'Searching, screening and confiscation in schools.'

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/searching-screening-and-confiscation

Key points from the guidance include:

Searching can play a critical role in ensuring that schools are safe environments for all pupils and staff. It is a vital measure to safeguard and promote staff and pupil welfare, and to maintain high standards of behaviour through which pupils can learn and thrive.

Headteachers and staff they authorise have a statutory power to search a pupil or their possessions where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that the pupil may have a prohibited item listed below or any other item that the school rules identify as an item which may be searched for.

The list of prohibited items is:

• knives and weapons;

• alcohol;

• illegal drugs;

• stolen items;

• any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be used:

• to commit an offence, or

• to cause personal injury to, or damage to property of; any person (including the pupil)

• an article specified in regulations:

• tobacco and cigarette papers

• fireworks

• pornographic images.

Confiscation

An authorised staff member carrying out a search can confiscate any item that they have reasonable grounds for suspecting:

• poses a risk to staff or pupils;

Our practice is for two members of staff to be present whenever a search is conducted. We will check a student's bag, coat and blazer, and ask them to remove the contents of all their pockets. We inform parents of the student whenever a search is conducted.

DATA PROTECTION

The sanctions issued to individual students are regarded as their personal data under General Data Protection Regulations. As such, this information cannot be shared with other parents and students.