

MORE HOUSE SCHOOL

POLICY

BOARDING BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Rationale:

It is important that a consistent approach is applied across the school towards boarders' behaviour during residential hours, and good behaviour is seen to be rewarded and poor behaviour is dealt with appropriately. In boarding a clear approach identifying negative behaviours and the school's disciplinary response helps boarders, their parents and school staff to support an inclusive and positive environment for all boarders. We very much work on the premise that *'it is the certainty and not the severity'* of the sanction which is important.

The scheme enables house staff, senior boarding staff and the school's senior managers to follow individual instances and patterns of good and poor behaviour and to respond so that a positive environment is promoted and developed.

Purpose:

- Opportunities for rewarding positive behaviour are championed wherever possible
- Clear descriptions of behaviour types and the school's disciplinary response are shared with pupils and all boarding staff.
- The staff record all disciplinary sanctions according to the agreed published processes.
- Senior managers use information to track patterns and trends, so that measures can be put in place to improve outcomes for all residential pupils.

Broad Guidelines:

Rewards:

It is important that positive behaviour is seen to be highlighted, rewarded and encouraged and to enable this to occur we have built a pupil ethos anchored by the guiding principles of Kindness-Spirit-Responsibility.

It is our aim in boarding to assist the pupils in working towards embedding these principles into their everyday lives. To this end, each term has a particular focus for the pupils which is discussed and demonstrated:

Michealmas Term: Spirit

Lent Term: Kindness

Trinity Term: Responsibility

A pupil every week is highlighted to our community for the way in which he has demonstrated the focus principle, with a formal letter being sent home to parents and House Points awarded- in this way allowing for a joined-up approach with the day pastoral provision.

In addition, staff are encouraged to recognise good behaviour with praise, enthusiasm and rewards.

Individual and group's achievements should be reflected at boarding Chapel services and in the boarding corridor meetings. Each boarding house also operates its own individual rewards system, with input from the boarders themselves which includes trips, extra activities, house points, treat nights and communications home.

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Sanctions:

These are part of any boy's home life and are necessary on occasions in the 'home away from home' environment. Wherever possible, these sanctions have been drawn up in consultation with different groups of pupils such as the Boarding prefect body and members of the Boarders' council. House staff are also able to discuss the 'boarding behaviour grid' at individual year group meetings in boarding. This is an ongoing process which will be reviewed and re-published at least once each year. The more 'ownership' the boarders have in this process, the greater the clearer they, parents and boarding staff will be in using sanctions when necessary.

Wherever possible, More House boarding operates on the fundamental principle of 'boarding by choice', reflecting the rights of every boarder and their parents. On occasions however, that choice has to be reviewed in the light of a temporary or more permanent disengagement by a boarder with key routines or acceptable behaviour within school or boarding. With boarders up to and including Year Eleven, the school will endeavour to maintain the full access to weekly or termly boarding, unless parents and / or the placing local authority are supportive of a more flexible arrangement. With Sixth Form boarders, the school can, if circumstances dictate, reduce the boarding entitlement whilst making flexible arrangements for the pupil to access their academic timetable. In exceptional circumstances, the school can remove the boarding placement, whilst continuing to support the pupils' access to their academic commitments.

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Sanctions here refer to those issued in boarding time. All incidents will be logged by house staff, enabling them to monitor trends, support interventions and to support those boys who need extra guidance. All corridors have these sanctions posted in a visible place with some age-groups having B1 and B2 descriptors displayed in different more readable form.

Carried out by House staff

Parents not informed for individual occurrences but may be informed for repeated behaviours.

B1 – Sanctions may include

- **Warning by house staff**
- **Loss of privileges, e.g., not allowed electronics/tuck, not allowed in social common room, sent to own room, early bedtime, no treat night.**
- **Not being allowed to take part in selected boarding activities or going on a boarding excursion**
 - Unkindness to fellow boarders including low level verbal or physical aggression (1st offence)
 - Failure to follow instructions from boarding staff and/or rudeness to boarding staff.
 - Inadequate work or poor behaviour in prep.
 - Damage to boarding facilities and/or equipment, e.g., bedrooms, common rooms, computers
 - Lateness to mealtimes, wake-up, activities and bedtimes (including showering) or missing mealtimes without good reason
 - Being in a boarding or school area without permission of House staff (during boarding hours)

B2 – Sanctions may include

- **Option of discussion/meeting with HoB or Dep HoB**
- **Loss of privileges, e.g., not allowed electronics/tuck, not allowed in social common room, sent to own room, early bedtime. No treat night or village shop option**
- **Boarding detention (Thurs 4.30-5.30pm)**
 - Repeated unkindness to fellow boarders of verbal or physical aggression (2nd offence)
 - Repeated failure to follow instructions from boarding staff/and or rudeness to boarding staff
 - Swearing at /or around staff or peers
 - Inappropriate use of language with racist or homophobic nature
 - Continued inadequate work or poor behaviour in prep.
 - Continued misuse of boarding facilities and/or equipment (see above)
 - Inappropriate use of technology or social media or Visigo entry 1st offence (e.g., Filming, posting of messages, etc.)
 - Out of bed or corridor after lights out without good reason (e.g., sickness)
 - Repeated lateness to mealtimes, wake-up, activities and bedtimes (including showering) or missing mealtimes without good reason

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B5 – Sanctions will include:

- **Temporary exclusion from boarding (and school if appropriate).**
- **Change of boarding room or corridor.**
- **Permanent removal of boarding place.**
- Persistent bullying (on-line or in person)
- Repeated B4 behaviour (specify)
- Repeated or Extreme racism or homophobia
- Theft
- Smoking / Vaping (3rd offence)/ alcohol (**fixed term exclusion**)
- Drugs (possession and / or use) **Permanent exclusion from school.**
- Possession of weapon with intent to harm or threaten

- Repeated inappropriate use of technology or social media or video entries (e.g., filming, posting of messages etc.)
- Possession of weapon (e.g., pen-knife or similar) but with no intention to use or threaten
- Repeatedly missing or refusing to attend compulsory boarding meetings or activities.
- Regular attempts to be in a boarding or school area without permission of House staff (during boarding hours)

B4 – Sanctions may include

- **Formal verbal warning with written follow-up, letter home and/or meeting with parents by HoB. Senior daytime pastoral staff notified and involved in follow-up.**
- **Option of fixed term exclusion from boarding**
 - Serious aggression (verbal or physical) towards fellow boarders or house staff
 - Repeated B3 behaviour (specify)
 - Repeated inappropriate use of language with racist or homophobic nature
 - Smoking / Vaping (2nd or 3rd offence)
 - Vandalism to school or fellow boarder's property
 - Roof climbing or deliberately dangerous behaviour
 - Off-site without permission
 - Serious misuse of social media including cyber-bullying or risky on-line behaviour

Conclusion:

Managing discipline to promote a positive residential environment helps pupils to feel happier and to develop personally and socially, and this is what we are striving to achieve at More House.

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Linked policies:

Alcohol and Substance Misuse policy

Anti-bullying policy

Anti-bullying Strategy

Boarding policy

Behaviour for Learning policy

Exclusions policy

Safeguarding incorporating Child Protection policy

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| Responsible staff member | Dept Head (Head of Residential) |
| Ratified by the Governing Body: | 5 October 2023 |
| Signed by the Governing Body: | Safeguarding & Welfare Committee |
| To be reviewed (annually): | October 2024 |