



Our motto is: 'Let your light shine... as you grow', (inspired by Matthew 5: 15-16)

Our vision is: 'We nurture our pupils to be the best they can be in every way - in an inclusive and supportive environment, rooted in Christian teachings.'

St Mary's C of E Written Statement of Behaviour Principles

Our long-term aim is to prepare our pupils to play a full part in a fast-changing, democratic and multi-cultural society, and, in particular, to prepare them for the next phase of their education. Recognising its historical foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with Christian principles and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

Our school Behaviour Policy and Child Protection Policy, as well as our approach to attendance and punctuality, help us to create a caring, stimulating and secure environment in which staff and pupils can work and play safely and to encourage the involvement of parents/carers in the development of their child.

Every pupil understands they have the right to feel safe, valued and respected, and learn free from the disruption of others.

Our principle aims are that:

- All pupils, staff, parents/carers and visitors are treated with respect and are free from any form of discrimination.
- Staff and volunteers set an excellent example to pupils at all times.
- Rewards and consequences are used consistently by staff, in line with the Behaviour Policy and Behaviour Curriculum.
- Positive handling is only to be used in line with the Positive Handling policy.
- The Behaviour Policy is understood by pupils and staff, as well as parents and carers.
- The Behaviour Curriculum is explicitly taught and revisited each year and throughout the year through targeted lessons and intervention.
- The Exclusions Policy explains that exclusions will only be used as a last resort, and outlines the processes involved in permanent and fixed-term exclusions.
- Pupils are helped to take responsibility for their actions.
- Families are involved in behaviour incidents to foster good relationships between the school and pupils' home life.

The Governing Board also emphasises that violence or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated in any circumstances.

This Written Statement of Behaviour Principles is reviewed and approved by the full governing board/committee of St Mary's School, Saffron Walden annually.

September 2025