

DMES Behavior Policy

Rationale

At DMES we believe that good behavior has a significant impact on an effective learning environment which enables all students the opportunity to achieve. We are developing a caring and inclusive environment which encourages and reinforces good behavior.

We acknowledge that our parents and wider community expect good behavior as an important outcome of the learning process.

Aims

- To provide an environment that is conducive to and supportive of learning
- To promote responsible behavior and respect for oneself, others and property
- To ensure that behavior expectations are clear to all members of the school community so that rewards, sanctions and consequences are clearly understood by all

Positive Student Recognition

All students enjoy receiving recognition for expected behavior. Students respond better when they are encouraged and rewarded for positive behavior and actions. Once students realize that positive behavior brings about positive recognition, they are more likely to behave appropriately.

In the classroom, students who choose to act appropriately are likely to receive a reward. Displayed in each classroom is the Positive Rewards Chart for easy access by staff and students. This chart outlines a range of appropriate behaviors, the rewards of those behaviors and the staff member/s who will deal with this. (Please see the Positive Rewards Chart)

At DMES, we seek to foster a **Culture of Kindness**. The rewards system is designed to complement this culture and the grade leaders are in place to help promote and reward positive behavior.

Discipline Issues

At DMES, teachers and other adults are expected to manage the behavior of students in and around the school, address any inappropriate behavior themselves in the first instance.

In the classroom, students who choose to act inappropriately will receive a sanction. Displayed in each classroom is the Behavior Management Chart for easy access by staff and students. This chart outlines a range of inappropriate behaviors, the consequences of those behaviors and the staff member/s who will deal with this.

Serious and repeated behavior incidents will be recorded along with meetings with parents to discuss behavior concerns.

Serious Misconduct

In cases of serious misconduct a student will be immediately removed from the classroom. Punishments may include an Internal or External Suspension.

Non-Reenrollment, Exclusion and Expulsion

In extreme circumstances where all other options have been exhausted, and the student continues to cause a health and safety risk to others, non-reenrollment, exclusion and expulsion will be considered by the Vice Principal (Student Affairs) and Principal.

Expectations

It is expected that students will be:

- Provided with a high quality education without being negatively affected by others' behavior
- Safe and respected in a welcoming school environment with no physical punishment
- Treated with respect and fairness by teachers, staff, and fellow students
- Provided with appropriate educational activities that promote individual talents, abilities, and potential
- Recognized for good behavior in class and while at school
- Supported in how to change misconduct into positive student behavior

Students are expected to:

- Develop positive relationships and values
- Follow all policies, rules, and regulations set forth by DMES
- Follow the Behavior Expectations as outlined on the Behavior Chart
- Engage as active learners and contribute and participate positively to the learning environment
- Contribute to the school community and act as ambassadors of the school
- Contribute to and promote a positive school environment

Teachers and other staff

The classroom teacher is responsible for managing behavior in the classroom. There are classroom rules, expectations, and consequences. All staff within the school are expected to use encouraging language, praise and positive reinforcement both in lessons and around the school, so that positive behavior is instantly recognized and positively rewarded.

All staff are expected to act as role models of professional, courteous behavior.

Parents are expected to:

- Encourage students to follow the school rules and behavior expectations.
- Respond quickly to a request to attend the school for a meeting about behavior.
- Follow-up on behavior concerns at home and to implement the suggested consequences
- Act as good role models for their children
- Inform the school if there are any circumstances that may affect their child's behavior
- Support any disciplinary action taken by the school and to ensure their child understands that school and home are working together and are in agreement.

Supporting Documents:

Child Protection Policy

Behavior Chart

Positive Rewards Chart