

# Silver Fern International School Policy

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<b>Policy Name</b>	Behaviour Guidance - Primary
<b>Policy Number</b>	AP002.02
<b>Effective Date</b>	03/04/2017
<b>Review Date</b>	As required
<b>Purpose</b>	To ensure that standards of behaviour are maintained, that children are treated with respect and fairness, and that our expectations of children are consistent. Children will dress appropriately for school and school activities. Children will be sun smart. Adults in the school will be role models
<b>Background</b>	Throughout the school we promote personal development through the use of the Personal Goals and other means designed to support the children. The procedures described in this policy are designed to support personal growth and to enable children to adapt their behaviour to the needs of the school community.
<b>Policy and Procedures</b>	<p><b>Good Behaviour</b></p> <p>At Silver Fern we believe significant factors that contribute to good behaviour are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Teachers having high expectations of students' behaviour and their work.</li><li>2. Challenging teaching that promotes success and enjoyment.</li><li>3. The active involvement of children in their own learning and in the wider life of the school.</li><li>4. A consistent and positive approach towards rewards and sanctions.</li><li>5. An awareness that the school influences the wider community.</li></ol> <p><b>Negotiated Classroom Rights and Responsibilities</b></p> <p>Guided by the classroom teacher, children work at their own class rights and responsibilities during the first week of each school year.</p> <p><b>Sanctions</b></p> <p>At Silver Fern we believe sanctions should be:</p> <p><i>Appropriate</i></p> <p>Whenever possible the sanction should 'fit the circumstances.' There should be a logical connection to the misbehaviour. For example, a student who damages something should repair or replace it. A student who hurts someone's feelings should help that person feel better.</p> <p><i>Predictable</i></p> <p>Students need to know exactly what will happen if they choose to misbehave. Staff need to be able to refer to the sanction if a student is in danger of incurring it. For example – A teacher will say "If you continue to.....then you know I will have to remove you from the group."</p>

### *Immediate*

As with rewards, sanctions are most effective if given immediately. Students have short term memories and are unlikely to associate an action with an incident that occurred a week ago. This is especially true for younger members of the school.

### **Bullying**

All children have the right to be happy in school, to be safe and able to learn. Bullying can prevent a child from being able to have any of these things and so we have a responsibility to respond proactively to any instances of behaviour which interfere with those basic rights. Bullying is a complex issue and at Silver Fern we work with teachers and students to develop a common understanding of the difference between bullying and other forms of behaviour. Bullying is at one end of a continuum of behaviours and identifying the point at which inappropriate behaviour becomes bullying is not always easy. For this reason, labelling inappropriate behaviour as bullying is not always possible or helpful, but we still take such behaviour very seriously.

We will always base our intervention on the 5 Stage Disciplinary Procedures policy. Our aim in dealing with instances of bullying is to protect the child who is being bullied. We also aim to modify the behaviour of the child who is carrying out the bullying and help them to understand the impact of their behaviour. Bullying types of behaviour that take place between students outside of school (e.g. through online social networks), will be taken very seriously and will result in sanctions being applied in school. This is because such behaviour can take away another student's basic rights to be happy in school, to be safe and to be able to learn.

### **Behaviour in the Playground**

The school behaviour policy is particularly important during lunch and break times. These periods are influential and important times in a child's day. Here children are free to form friendships, to structure their own play and to exert self-discipline and responsibility towards others. We have staff members who work during these times to ensure the children's lunch and break times are safe and enjoyable periods of the school day.

At Silver Fern we have our set of 'Playground Rules'. These are discussed with each class and children are given practical guidance on how they are to be interpreted in the playground.

### *Guidance for the Playground*

When a dispute arises, all children involved should be given a chance to explain their case without interruption. They should be encouraged to find a solution. No blame should be given to one child more than another until the facts have been determined. After finding a solution children should be asked to apologise and make friends after the dispute has been settled. Time needs to be put aside to repair and rebuild, offering children a period to reflect and then move forward.

If a child continues to misbehave in the playground it may be necessary to implement the following (all of which need to be reported back to the child/children's classroom teacher):

- Time out: a short period when the child is given time to 'cool down' and consider his/her actions. An area in the playground is dedicated for this.
- Removal from the playground: an extended removal inside from the playground.

It is the responsibility of the duty teacher to then record the incident which causes either of these time outs in the Playground Incident Book. This needs to be dated, detailed with what occurred and the child or children involved. The book may be very useful if the possibility of parental involvement happens. They are then to also contact the teacher of the child/children to make them aware of the situation.

### **Theft**

Parents are advised that students should not bring items of value or large sums of money into the school unless absolutely necessary. If for any reason students need to bring such valuables to school they are advised to hand them to the school office immediately upon arrival. Silver Fern cannot accept responsibility for the loss or theft of money or personal property.

### **Dress Code**

Our guidelines for appropriate dress are:

- School uniform to worn every day except on the designated and calendared 'mufti' days.
- Children may wear studs in the ears, a watch, and medic alerts items.
- Items round the neck are to be worn under clothing during physical activity and on play equipment for reasons of safety. We would suggest that precious items are not brought to school.
- Children may not wear makeup or nail polish except on special dress-up days.
- Shoes will be appropriate for school and its activities.
- Throughout the terms designated school sunhats will be worn.
- For health and safety reasons, long hair must be tied back.
- Hair must not be dyed.
- While participating in outdoor education activities, guidelines for clothing, given to families, must be followed.
- Swimming: Long hair will be tied back.
- Students will wear Silver Fern swimwear.

### **Referral Documents**

AP003 5 Stage Disciplinary Procedure Policy  
AP004 Anti-Bullying Policy