



MINISTRY OF
**EDUCATION, YOUTH, SPORTS
 AGRICULTURE & LANDS**
 CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

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Policy Name: National School Discipline and Student Behaviour Policy	
Policy Code:	
Approved in:	September 2010
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Last Review Approved:	August 2020
Cross References:	
The Education Law, 2016.	
The Education Regulations, 2017.	
Ministry of Education Guidance on Behaviour and Discipline in Schools, 2020	
Student Code of Conduct – Teacher Guidance Handbook - 2014	
Handbook “ Successful Schools and Achieving Students” (OES, 2018)	
Cayman Islands Special Educational Needs Code of Practice, 2020	

INTRODUCTION:

The National School Discipline and Student Behaviour Policy (the national policy) defines the expectations of the Ministry of Education (the ministry) on how government, assisted and independent schools should develop, implement, monitor and evaluate policies on discipline and student behaviour. These expectations reflect international best practice and are based on standards agreed by the ministry. The national policy must be fundamental to the behaviour protocols of all government, assisted and independent schools so that there is consistency in provision and practice.

As required by the Educational Law, 2016 and the Education Regulations, 2017 the ministry requires all government, assisted and independent schools to develop their own behaviour policies in line with legislation and national guidance on matters relating to school discipline and student behaviour.

It is the intention of the ministry to ensure consistency through effective provision and practice, which will be regularly monitored and evaluated in order to raise the standards of student behaviour

AIMS:

To:

- Emphasize that school discipline and student behaviour are essential foundations for a creative and effective learning and teaching environment, in which all members of the school community can thrive and feel respected, safe and secure.
- Specify the expectations for discipline and student behaviour in government, assisted and independent schools across the Cayman Islands.

POLICY STATEMENT:

All students have a right to

- Be taught in environments that are safe, conducive to learning and free from disruption.
- Expect appropriate action from school staff according to the school's disciplinary procedure.

All government, assisted and independent schools have a responsibility to

- Ensure the whole school community, including parents are consulted on the principles of the school's behaviour policy.
- Establish and clearly communicate measures to ensure good order, respect and discipline.
- Ensure that staff members are clear about the extent of their disciplinary authority and receive necessary professional development on behaviour strategies.
- Support, praise and as appropriate reward students' good behaviour.
- Apply sanctions fairly, consistently, proportionately and reasonably – taking account of special educational needs and the additional needs of vulnerable children, as well as offering support as appropriate.
- Ensure student safety and well-being, including preventing bullying and dealing effectively with associated complaints.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Ministry of Education will

- Establish educational policy and supporting guidance documents.
- Set national targets for improvement.
- Develop a framework for individual school audits on behaviour and to use the data to develop associated improvement plans.
- Design and develop targeted behaviour training for school staff.
- Support the implementation and maintenance of individual school policies on behaviour.

The Office of Education Standards will

- Evaluate data, practice and procedures relating to school discipline and student behaviour in individual Government, assisted and independent schools.
- Make recommendations on improvements for each school as identified during school inspections.
- Provide accurate and timely information to the Ministry of Education on school discipline and student behaviour so that policy decisions may be informed.

The Department of Education Services or Governing Body will

- Monitor and enforce that government, assisted and independent schools are in compliance with this policy and associated guidance.
- Support school leadership teams in evaluating behaviour data so that priorities for improvement can be identified.
- Provide required support to enable government, assisted and independent schools to meet improvement targets.
- Work collaboratively with other agencies and stakeholders to develop and maintain appropriate systems for supporting school discipline and student behaviour.

School leaders will

- Ensure that their school is compliant with legislation and ministry guidance relating to school discipline and student behaviour
- Ensure the development of their individual school's discipline and student behaviour policy.
- Ensure the effective implementation of the school discipline and student behaviour policy and all other national educational policies.
- Promote the school behaviour policy, in writing, to staff, parents and students at least once a year.
- Monitor and review provision and practice in their schools.
- Facilitate ongoing professional development as needed.
- Be accountable to the Ministry of Education for students' standards of behaviour and achievement.

School staff will

- Effectively implement the school's discipline and student behaviour policy.
- Use the ministry's supporting guidance documents to assist their planning and practice.

SCHOOL POLICIES ON DISCIPLINE AND STUDENT BEHAVIOUR:**The School Policy on Discipline and Student Behaviour must:**

- Be based on the legislation, the national policy and the ministry's supporting guidance documents.
- Be developed collaboratively in partnership with key stakeholders, including parents/guardians.
- Take into account the indicators of good practice within the publication "Successful Schools and Achieving Students" (OES, 2018) and the Ministry's supporting guidance documents.
- Be approved by the ministry, the Department of Education Services or governing body before implementation.

The School Policy on Discipline and Student Behaviour must reflect the ministry's supporting guidance documents and include:

- A policy statement.
- A student code of conduct.
- Tiered levels of rewards and sanctions.
- An outline school sanctions and disciplinary measures
- Protocols relating to screening, searching and confiscation
- An overview of the home school agreement.
- Protocols around student conduct and behaviour outside of the school.
- Behaviour on the school bus.
- Protocols relating to cell phones and other electronic equipment.
- An outline of expected classroom rules.
- Protocols relating to the use of reasonable force
- Expectations relating to bullying
- Expectations on the behaviour of parents/guardians and other visitors to school