

Safe, Scholarly and Respectful

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Ratified by: Governing body

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Other relevant School policies include:

- Written statement of behaviour principles policy
- Equality Policy
- SEND Policy
- Uniform Policy
- Ted Wragg Trust Anti-Bullying Policy
- Ted Wragg Trust Exclusion Policy
- Ted Wragg Trust Attendance Policy
- Ted Wragg Trust Reasonable Force and Restrictive Interventions Policy
- Ted Wragg Trust Supporting pupils with medical conditions Policy
- Ted Wragg Trust Computer/Mobile device and online use policy – pupils

Statutory guidance:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>
- [Behaviour in Schools](#)
- [Searching, Screening and Confiscation \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Reasonable force](#)- DRAFT

Changes:

Minor updates for 2025/26 policy with minor adjustments to Behaviour Policy

Note: *This behaviour policy has been written as a policy for the whole school. While it should be followed it should also be read in accordance with the school's duties under the Equality Act 2010 and should be read in that light together with other relevant policies. Where a child has (or may have) a disability then active consideration must be given to how the policy may be adapted to take into account a child's individual needs. This will include consideration about what reasonable adjustments may be made. Children and parents with SEN/disability should be encouraged to be involved in considering these points, an example could be through the creation of a relational support plan. Records should be made about any such changes and any staff who work with these particular children should be informed about any such changes (for example a supply teacher should be made aware of any potential changes). In addition to SEN/disability the policy should also take into account other protected characteristics such as race, religious belief or matters in respect of gender/sexual orientation. If staff have any questions they should seek guidance from a senior leader.*

This behaviour policy is reviewed annually and is done so in consultation with students, parents/carers and staff. In addition to an annual student, parent/carer and staff survey there are multiple opportunities through school council/parliament/leadership, parental listening sessions and engagement activities to provide feedback.

Aims of policy

This behaviour policy is based on our key concept for Every Child Succeeds and is underpinned by an inclusion model created using the work of Bronfenbrenner and on Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Our model is based on **safe** and **connected** children learning **successfully** in a classroom environment. This policy aims to:

1. To **support students taking pride in their behaviour**, so that there is a culture of warmth, achievement, ambition and learning everywhere in the school with and no learning opportunity wasted.
2. To provide **clarity for staff, students and the community** about acceptable behaviour and enable the creation of **strong and positive relationships**.
3. To encourage students to **make positive choices** and **take responsibility** for their own actions.
4. To enable teachers to **deliver engaging and creative lessons, experiment and take risks**, in a safe and secure environment.

1.0 Marine Academy Plymouth's School Behaviour Policy

Marine Academy encourages good behaviour through high expectations, clear policy and an ethos which ensures students show pride in their conduct and learning by making positive behaviour choices.

Marine Academy has in place a comprehensive package of rewards to reinforce and praise good behaviour with clear sanctions for those who do not make positive choices and therefore fail to comply with the school's behaviour policy.

This Policy aims to outline the measures by which the school aims to promote good behaviour, self-discipline and respect; prevent bullying; ensure that students complete assigned work; and ensure Marine Academy is a safe place for all.

The commitment of staff, students and parents is vital to develop a positive whole school ethos, Marine Academy Plymouth reserves the right to apply this policy to **all** students and **any time** a student is recognisable as a Marine Academy student, regardless of whether this is before/during/after school hours and to all matters relating to social media and online activity. The application of this policy is not dependent on whether the student is wearing school uniform.

2.0 Rewards

Marine Academy Plymouth regularly celebrates the success of all students in a variety of ways as we recognise that focussing on success and positive outcomes is essential to developing a positive culture and ethos across the school. Marine Academy Plymouth wishes to recognise the vast majority of students make positive behaviour choices every day, in the table below are the ways we celebrate success with students, parents and staff during the academic year.

Reward	Frequency
Credits Credits are used by all staff to reward positive behaviour and given through Class Charts.	Daily
Honour Student Awarded to one student per lesson who has displayed positive learning behaviours.	Daily
Recognition The School Newsletter, Principal's blog are used to highlight students' achievements.	Weekly
Student of the week Awarded weekly in all years for the students who has reflected most strongly the core values of the academy.	Weekly
Scholar of the week Awarded each week to students who exhibited scholarly behaviour during the week.	Weekly
Things to celebrate Successes are celebrated for each year group and presented on the Academy screens (includes SotW).	Weekly
Tutor group challenge Weekly award to the best performing tutor group in one of the Academy's key foci.	Weekly

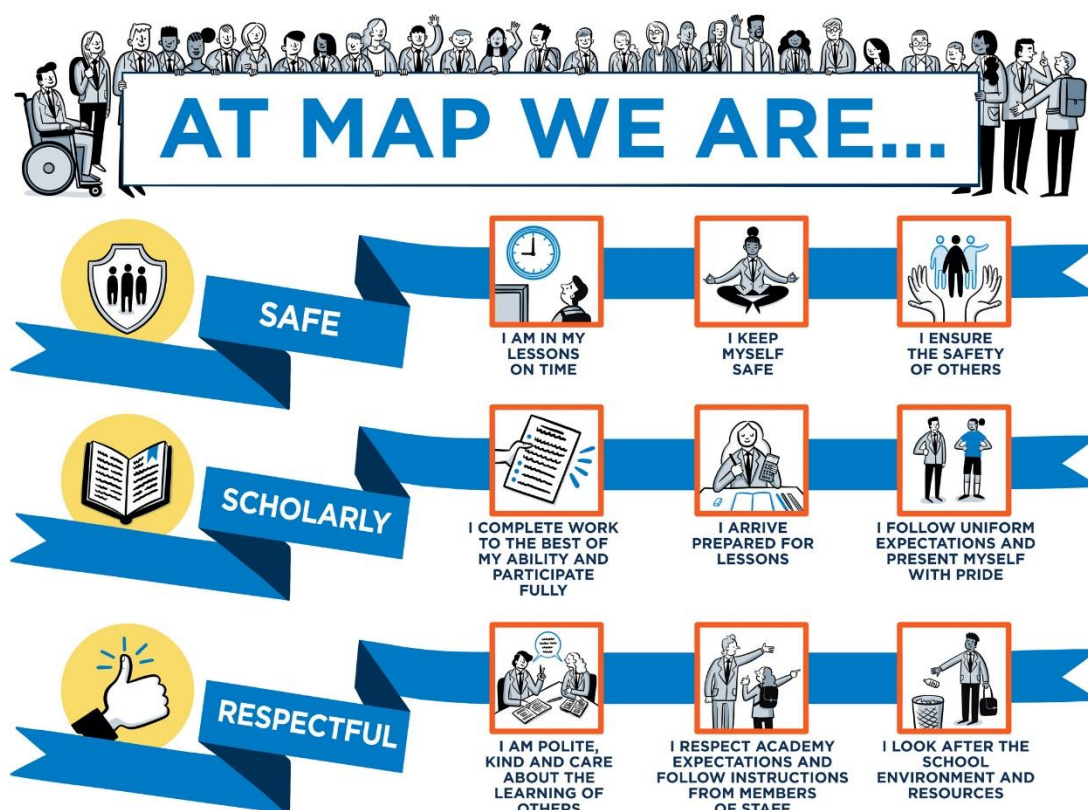
Attendance Weekly golden tickets for 100% attendance. Termly prize draw for community-based rewards.	Weekly
Credit Rewards Rewards given to students who have achieved the most credit individually and in tutor groups.	Monthly
MAP leadership award Recognition of rewards embedded into MAP award and higher levels achieved through completion of achievement strand.	Half termly
Celebration Assemblies Individual students are recognised in Year Group half-termly assemblies for exceptional achievement and certificates are handed out by the Head of Year.	Weekly
Principal award Bronze, Silver & Gold Principal Award is awarded termly to those students who have 100% for attendance, 100% punctuality, 100% positive class charts and a purple rating on the MAP measure	Termly
Credit Reward Trips Students with a high number of credits for the year can cash them in for reward trips.	Annually
Celebration Evenings Annual Celebration Evenings are held for each Year Group. Awards are given in the following categories: - Outstanding Attainment, Effort or Subject Award in a particular subject (nominated by their teacher) - Tutor Awards - MAP leadership awards - Student of the Year Awards	Annually

3.0 High Expectations

All Lesson expectations are based on the following principles:

- **PUNCTUAL AND ORGANISED**- Be on time with all of your equipment and uniform.
- **KIND and INCLUSIVE**- Be kind, in everything you do, to everyone in the school and wider community.
- **PRIDE**- In learning, effort and appearance/community.
- **POSITIVE CHOICES**- Following all reasonable requests.
- **ENGAGEMENT**- As an active learner always trying your best.

Marine Academy Plymouth Lesson Expectations



All lesson expectations have been co-produced in consultation with staff and students. Lesson expectations are reviewed regularly with students and staff.

Student, parent and staff voice is really important to our school and we conduct an annual survey with each group to help inform our approaches and support continual improvement. In addition to this, there are a number of opportunities throughout the year for our communities to share their recommendations and reflections including through our student council/parliament, through termly parent forums, annual surveys and staff networks.

3.1 Creating Routines

Routines play a vital role in creating a safe and supportive learning environment. They provide students with clear expectations and consistent structure, which helps reduce anxiety and uncertainty. Building routines in a safe environment allows students to develop trust and confidence, knowing what to expect and how to navigate their day successfully. This stability not only promotes positive behaviour but also supports emotional wellbeing, enabling students to focus on their learning and personal growth. When routines are established with care and consistency, they become powerful tools that help students build independence, resilience, and a strong sense of security.

Sometimes we all lose our way. At Marine Academy, we are determined to ensure every student succeeds. Compass is a bespoke area, overseen by specialist staff, with one clear goal: to provide targeted support for students who find it difficult to manage their behaviour, helping them thrive in a highly academic environment where 100% effort, 100% of the time is expected.

We firmly believe that all students have the potential to achieve great success. As an inclusive school, Marine Academy is committed to meeting the diverse needs of every student. Compass serves as our internal support provision for those who struggle to adapt to the consistency required both in class and around the school.

Within Compass, we deliver a tailored Intervention Programme designed to offer focused support, enabling students to succeed in their lessons. A key part of this support is helping students develop positive routines and habits that promote self-discipline and consistency. Compass is not only a space for support but also for reflection, a fresh start, and meaningful conversations about the challenges impacting behaviour, helping students build the routines they need to succeed both academically and personally.

4.0 Sanctions

As stated previously sanctions are only to be used when more positive methods of promoting outstanding learning through good behaviour are not working with a particular individual or group of students. When a member of staff feels the need to resort to sanctions these are always to be applied impersonally (i.e. it is the negative behaviour that is resulting in the sanction not the student's personality), calmly, fairly, consistently and professionally.

The only sanctions/systems to be used within a lesson are de-credits, Red card detentions, Compass and detentions.

The aim should be to keep all students accessing their learning within the lesson for the full duration of the lesson. We are committed to not allowing the negative behaviour of the minority to continually disrupt the outstanding learning of the majority. For this reason, we use a system where students who fail to respond to a verbal reminder by correcting their behaviour can be removed from the lesson in order to allow the learning of the rest of the group to continue. We also employ the on-call system so that a student can be collected (if deemed a serious incident) and removed from the classroom.

When issuing a verbal reminder to a student it is important that this is done calmly and professionally throughout. The aim is to show students that they have 'chosen' their behaviour. There is a (mandatory) opportunity for restoration explicitly written into the system, whereby any student removed will be met by the member of staff responsible.

Uniform expectations are detailed on the school website. Uniform is checked regularly by tutors, Heads of Year, Assistant Heads of Year and senior staff. Students who are not in correct uniform (unless carrying signed permission slip) and refuse or are unable to correct it will be supported to make a positive choice.

4.1 Lesson removal – Compass

Compass- helping all students to achieve.

Sometimes we all lose our way, at Marine Academy we are determined to ensure all students succeed. Compass is a bespoke area, overseen by specialist staff. It has one goal; to give students who find it difficult to manage their behaviour the support they require to succeed in a highly academic environment where only 100% effort, 100% of the time is accepted.

We believe all students have the potential to achieve great success and we are morally driven by the belief that Marine Academy is an inclusive school there to meet the needs of all of our students.

Compass is our internal support provision for children who struggle to adapt to the consistency demanded in class and around school. There we deliver our Intervention Programme. This is a bespoke programme designed to provide targeted support for children, in a way that will allow them to succeed in lessons.

It is a place not only for support but for reflection and a chance to re-start and discuss issues that are impacting on behaviour.

If a student does not adhere to the 'Classroom Expectations,' the teacher will issue a de-credit and write the student's name on the board. If the student continues to disrupt or fails to follow instructions, they will receive a red card detention (10 mins), which will also be made visual by the teacher. Should the student reach a third incident, they will be referred to Compass, where they will have the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour. In compass students are expected to work hard, be polite, and follow all instructions given. The length of time spent in Compass will depend on the student's ability to meet these expectations. If students do not adhere to academy expectations while in Compass, they may be required to complete additional time there. Continued failure to meet expectations may result in placement in Compass 2, meaning the student will remain in Compass for the remainder of the day. Students placed in Compass 2 are also required to attend Compass the following day for tutor time. Throughout this process, students are expected to demonstrate that they are ready to return to lessons by working hard, being polite, and following all instructions.

If a student receives a Compass referral, they will be allocated a lunch time detention with their year team, and parents will be notified. If a student does not attend their detention, this will be escalated to a Senior Leadership Team (SLT) detention during Electives (7-9). Year 10s and 11s will be escalated to a Friday afterschool detention. Failure to adhere to this could result in additional time in Compass or a host school placement.

4.2 Repeated or more Serious Incidents

We are committed to inclusion and to preventing both suspension and exclusion. However, where a student (for example) repeatedly fails to wear the correct uniform, fails to attend detentions, receives multiple referrals to Compass, or is involved in an incident too serious for a detention, the student will be referred to internal exclusion. Students will spend a full day in internal exclusion including an after-school detention.

More serious incidents could include but are not limited to:

- Truancing (student deliberately missing from lesson without permission);
- vaping/smoking;
- vandalism/deliberate damage;
- refusal to follow instructions;
- bullying;
- swearing;
- aggression;
- rudeness; and
- dangerous behaviour.

1. Defiance (refusal to carry out a reasonable request made by, or walking away from, a member of staff)	Students should be asked explicitly, “I have asked you to ... this is a reasonable request. Are you refusing to do as I have asked?” There must be no negotiation. If a student does not immediately comply with your request, they should be sent straight to Compass. Uniform issues (or similar) will be treated as defiance and sanctioned as a serious incident.
2. Verbal or Physical abuse of staff.	This may include: • Pushing past/physical contact with staff • Swearing at staff • Rudeness and name calling
3. Exam misconduct	Students will be sent to Compass or disqualified.
4. Truancy or wandering for 10 minutes or more during a lesson.	Students may only be out of lessons with a pass from a member of staff. If a student breaks this rule and is out for more than 10 minutes of a lesson, this will immediately result in a referral to Compass.
5. Violent or dangerous behaviour	This may include: • Fighting • Threatening behaviour
6. Possession or use of alcohol or drugs	This is against the law, and may result in permanent exclusion. Students cannot refuse to be searched if an adult has reason to believe that they may be in possession of banned substances.
7. Possession or bringing a weapon or dangerous item on to the school site	Students are not permitted to bring prohibited items onto the school site. This includes: • Weapons of any kind (including knives, blades, or items intended to cause harm) • Stolen items • Fireworks or any explosive materials • Pornographic material • Items intended to facilitate bullying, harassment, or intimidation • Lighters, matches, or other fire-starting equipment • Laser pens or items that may pose a safety risk • Magnets or any item that may be used to interfere with school systems, equipment, or safety • Any item that could cause harm or is inappropriate to bring onto the school site The Academy reserves the right to determine whether an item is inappropriate or presents a risk. The Academy also reserves the right to decide on the appropriate sanction, taking into account the severity and circumstances of the incident.

	To bring weapon or dangerous item into the academy is against the law, is extremely dangerous, and may result in a permanent exclusion.
8. Malicious setting off of the fire alarm	This is against the law, causes significant disruption to the whole school, and may result in a permanent exclusion (and possible financial penalty).
9. Deliberate damage to or theft of property	This may include: • Deliberate vandalism, display boards, doors and windows. • Deliberate vandalism to the school toilets
10. Smoking (including all types of e-cigarette/vapes/paraphernalia)	Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school site. If a student is seen smoking or is suspected of smoking on the school site, in the vicinity of the school, or in school uniform, this will result in a serious sanction. If the fire alarm is set off due to a student smoking on site, this may result in a permanent exclusion.
11. Bullying or prejudicial language directed at another person	This may include: • Physical or verbal abuse of others • Offensive text messages or misuse of social networking or other internet sites.
12. Incidents outside of school	Incidents outside of school including but not limited to (bullying, inappropriate use of social media, assault, drug use or supply of drugs to others, shoplifting or theft).

4.3 Reconnect, rebuild and restore

If any student feels a member of staff has incorrectly referred them to the lesson removal room they can request staff review the lesson removal. Staff will always try to capture student voice related any incident and use this to inform decision making.

All students will have the opportunity to discuss this with a member of staff upon entry to the room and may use this to indicate if they feel they have been referred on an unfair basis. The review will be considered by a member of staff and the student informed of the outcome. Any staff member who refers a student will visit the student and complete a restorative conversation. The student must enter compass whilst this review takes place.

During the student's time in Compass, the teacher that sent them will call home and explain why they feel the student did not adhere to the school's expectations. The teacher will have 24 hours to have a restorative conversation with the student.

This process assists in de-escalating the mood of the student and allows them to gain perspective and empathy with the teacher. It is a fundamental part of the restorative process, which drives the improvement of the student's behaviour.

4.5 Red Card detention

The 'Red Card' detention is a 5 minute detention for anti-social behaviour in and around the school. At Marine Academy, we expect everyone to behave and treat each other with respect at all times. That means walking around the school calmly and quietly, respecting each other's space and looking out for each other. Our red card detentions enable us to address any behaviour that does not meet our high expectations of being Safe, Scholarly and Respectful. There are no warnings for these behaviours.

The following are typical reasons for a red card detention:

- Running indoors
- Shouting indoors
- Pushing/shoving
- Inappropriate attitude
- Dropping litter/throwing food
- Eating and drinking in banned areas
- Repeatedly not bringing the correct equipment to school
- Talking during silent transition/line ups
- Deliberately going the wrong way round the one way system
- Not following instructions
- Untucked shirts
- Chewing gum
- Late to line ups

If a student does one of the things above, an adult will tell them that they have a "Red card", and that they must serve a 5-minute detention at the start of the next break or lunch. Students will be collected by the year teams. Students can receive multiple red cards in one break. For example should a student receive two red cards they will complete a 10 min detention. Parents will be notified by classcharts. If a student fails to attend their detention this will escalate to a next day lunch time detention and an elective detention. If a student fails to attend either of the previous sanctions they will then receive a 1 hour after school detention on Friday evening.

4.7 Punctuality and lateness

Punctuality is a key habit that helps students succeed both in school and later in life. Arriving on time shows respect for others and responsibility for one's commitments. It helps students make the most of their learning time and sets a positive tone for the day. Developing punctuality early builds discipline, reliability, and time-management skills—qualities that are essential in further education, the workplace, and everyday life.

Lateness to school

The student entrance gate will close promptly at 8:30 am. Any student arriving after this time will need to enter through the late gate and will spend tutor time in the late room with a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). During this time, uniform, equipment, and homework will be checked to ensure students are fully prepared for the day. The student will also receive a 10-minute red card (lunch time)

detention with their Head of Year (HOY). Failure to attend this detention will result in an after-school detention with a member of SLT.

Lateness to Lesson

Being on time to lessons is important because it shows respect for teachers and classmates and helps you make the most of your learning. It also builds good habits like responsibility and discipline, reduces stress by avoiding rushing, and allows you to participate fully in class. Plus, being punctual helps keep lessons running smoothly without interruptions. Students are expected to transition promptly from tutor time to session 1. For years 7 to 10, all other transitions will be managed by line-ups. During transitions, music will play, and all students must be in their session by the end of the song (approximately 4 minutes). Any student who is late to a lesson will be placed in Compass.

4.8 Multiple referrals

Multiple referrals to Compass are a serious concern as they indicate ongoing difficulties with behaviour and consistency in meeting school expectations. Frequent visits to Compass disrupt a student's learning and can lead to missed lessons, making it harder for them to keep up academically.

If a student is required to spend time in Compass 2 on two occasions within the same week, this may lead to a Host school placement. This measure is taken to provide additional support and address ongoing behavioural concerns in a more focused environment. However, we recognise that time spent away from regular lessons means missed learning opportunities, so we work closely with students and families to minimise disruption. Our aim is to help students reflect on their behaviour and develop the skills they need to succeed within the school community. Parents and carers will be informed of any offsite direction, and we collaborate with families to ensure the best outcomes for the student.

4.9 Lesson removal at a host school

In certain circumstances and to avoid suspension the school may refer a student to lesson removal at another school. The purpose of this is to allow the student to continue to access their learning and help support improvements in their behaviour. Any referral to a host school will be completed in consultation with parents/carers. If a student fails/refuses to attend then a suspension could be issued.

Circumstances that could result in a student spending time at a host school include, but are not limited to, the following breaches of the behaviour policy:

- unsuccessful lesson removal
- refusal to follow instructions;
- bullying;
- swearing;
- aggression;
- rudeness;
- dangerous behaviour;
- inappropriate use of computers, the internet, images or social media; and
- fighting

In some circumstances students may be required to attend a host school following a suspension. Furthermore, students could be requested to attend for a 6 week circuit breaker placement.

The school follows the latest DfE guidance regarding exclusion and suspension to ensure that students are treated fairly and not discriminated against. The application of this policy will be dependent upon the most recent statutory guidance.

5.0 Deliberate use of fire alarm

Deliberately setting the fire alarm off is an extremely dangerous act. The whole school experiences significant disruption and could prevent a fire engine attending a genuine emergency. In addition to the disruption to teaching, learning and the good order of the school, it also has a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable students. Many students will struggle to regulate their feelings after such a significant disruption to their routine. The school reserves the right to permanently exclude any student is deemed to have triggered the alarm deliberately or with malicious intent.

6.0 Bullying and Discrimination

At School our aim is to prevent bullying through education, by prompt and sustained response to reports of bullying, and by developing the confidence of students. We aim to have a culture of courage, compassion and citizenship and respect where difference is valued. The School aims to foster an atmosphere of friendship, mutual trust, respect and consideration for each person within the community.

To establish an ethos where students set a good example to others. To encourage all members of our school community to recognise bullying, acknowledge its unacceptability and report it. We have a system of support for students who have been bullied and a system of clear, fair and consistent responses to incidences of bullying ensuring that everyone is in a supportive, caring and safe environment. Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in our community.

Bullying is defined as repeated behaviour which is intended to hurt someone either emotionally or physically and is often aimed at certain people because of their race, religion, gender or sexual orientation or any other aspect such as appearance, disability or SEN need. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences.

Bullying can also occur where there is a power imbalance between students. A power imbalance is when one student (or a group of students) is able to dominate decision- making or otherwise asserts power in ways that disadvantages other student(s).

Bullying in any form will not be accepted or condoned. All forms of bullying will be addressed.

Bullying can include but not limited to:

- Emotional harm;
- Physical harm;
- Deliberately hurtful comments;
- Social bullying;
- Social media;
- Filming students/staff without consent;
- Posting inappropriate content/filmed incidents online/sharing;
- Threatening behaviour;
- Power imbalance;
- Name calling;
- Sexting;
- Cyber bullying; and
- Sexual exploitation.

Bullying can impact on a students' attendance and attainment at school, marginalises those groups who may be particular targets for bullies and can have a life-long negative impact on some young people's lives. We continue to promote a culture of high expectations and work with our community to ensure that our students have a sense of pride and feel happy and safe to be a part of our community.

All bullying incidents will be treated and addressed individually, and we will apply the full range of sanctions depending on the severity, frequency and seriousness of the incidents(s).

In majority of repeated incidents students will be placed on our Bullying Intervention Programme. The program is a thoughtful approach designed to address bullying with care. This program, tailored for both understanding the impact on victims and working collaboratively with those involved, ensures a positive school environment. See Antibullying policy for further information on the staged Bullying Intervention programme.

In exceptional circumstances and where other attempts to resolve an issue have not been successful the school may use a behaviour contract between students to establish a clear and equitable arrangement for communication and behaviour. The contract will identify clear sanctions for failing to meet the stated requirements that could include, but not limited to: red card, Lesson removal, suspension exclusion and for repeated breaches, permanent exclusion.

6.1 Sexual harassment and online sexual abuse

Marine Academy takes all reports of Sexual harassment, sexual violence and online sexual abuse extremely seriously and aims to create an open culture where students are comfortable and confident to report all incidents to any member of staff. We are clear that sexual harassment and violence are not acceptable, will never be tolerated and is not an inevitable part of growing up. We will always challenge behaviour or language that seeks to normalise sexual harassment or violence in schools.

School aims to prepare students for issues related to sexual harassment and online abuse through the curriculum and assemblies. Our age and stage appropriate curriculum covers such issues as:

- Healthy and respectful relationships, including consent;
- Gender roles, stereotyping, equality, diversity;
- Body confidence and self-esteem;
- Prejudiced behaviour;
- That sexual harassment and violence is always wrong; and
- Addressing any culture of sexual harassment.

We recognise the complexity of this issue and will always aim to safeguard all students involved taking into account the nature of incidents and their wider context.

For the purpose of this policy, when referring to sexual harassment we mean 'unwanted conduct of a sexual nature' that can occur both in person and online. Sexual harassment is likely to violate a student's dignity, and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded, or humiliated and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment.

Sexual harassment could include but is not limited to:

- Sexual comments, lewd comments, sexual stories, remarks about clothing, appearance and name calling;
- Sexual 'jokes' or taunting;

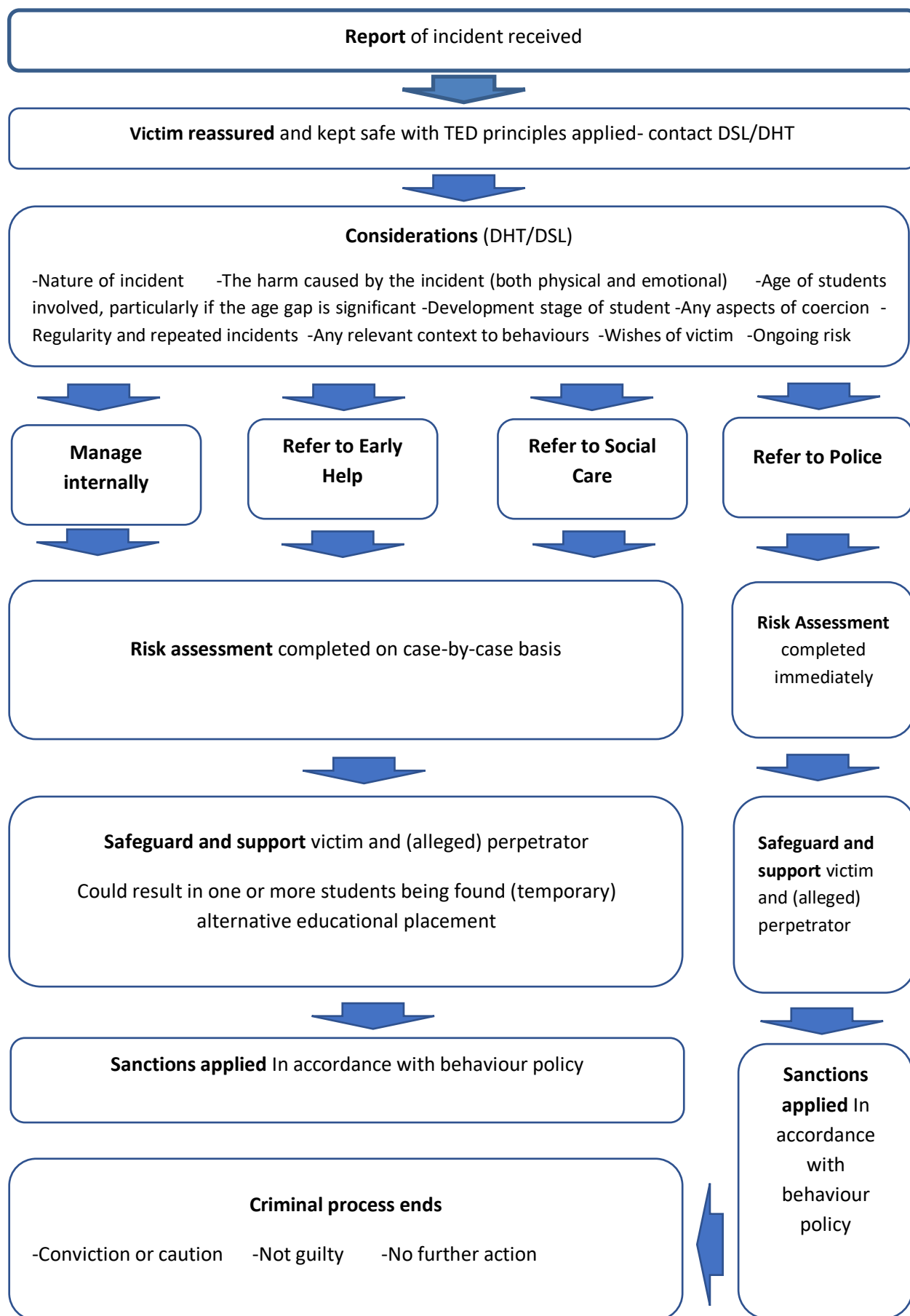
- Physical behaviour, such as: deliberate contact, interfering with clothing, displaying sexual images;
- Online sexual harassment, which might include: non-consensual sharing of images and videos (often referred to as sexting), inappropriate sexual comments on social media, exploitation, coercion and threats; and
- The deliberate creation and/or distribution of deep fake or AI images involving any member of the school community.

Sexual violence could include but is not limited to:

(When referring to sexual violence we are referring to sexual offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003)

- Rape;
- Assault by Penetration;
- Sexual Assault; and
- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent.

Marine Academy Plymouth will follow the following process when incidents are reported.



Marine Academy Plymouth recognises that all reported cases will have a range of factors that will be considered, these include but are not limited to:

- Nature of incident;
- The harm caused by the incident (both physical and emotional);
- Age of students involved, particularly if the age gap is significant;
- Development stage of student;
- Any aspects of coercion;
- Regularity and repeated incidents;
- Any relevant context to behaviours;
- Wishes of victim; and
- Ongoing risk.

Marine Academy Plymouth will always aim to deal with incidents in a timely and sensitive manner. All reported incidents will be recorded and (where relevant) passed on to other agencies for support or further action.

Marine Academy Plymouth will apply the full range of sanctions available to any student responsible for sexual harassment or online sexual abuse. The application of any sanction is not dependent on any further actions from any other relevant agencies and will be applied in-line with the balance of probabilities principle.

Sanctions may include but are not limited to:

- Restorative meeting;
- Behaviour contract;
- Lesson removal;
- Host school Lesson removal;
- suspension;
- Managed move;
- Permanent exclusion; and
- Referral to social services or police.

Confidentiality and anonymity are very sensitive issues when dealing with allegations and cases of sexual harassment and online abuse. In all cases Marine Academy will work in-line with safeguarding principles and in conjunction with any other relevant agencies to protect students. Ultimately, Marine Academy will balance the victim's wishes with our duty to protect the victim and other students within the school setting. Any decisions made will be discussed with all concerned and handled sensitively.

7.0 Support

A wide range of pastoral support is available to students who are actively engaged and working in lessons, ensuring they receive the guidance and assistance necessary to remain focused and succeed. Pastoral support is provided specifically during lesson time to those students who require it. To enhance this support, we are expanding our pastoral team this year by appointing Family Liaison Officers to each year group, ensuring timely and adequate assistance is available to all students in need. While year teams are often extremely busy, they will make contact with families regarding any concerns as soon as possible. As such, the first point of contact for support should be your child's tutor. Students who do not meet expectation will be given targeted interventions to support their improvement. Additionally, families requiring external support will be referred to the appropriate services to provide further assistance where necessary.

8.0 Suspension

All suspensions are completed using the following statutory guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

We will endeavour to avoid suspension wherever possible. A decision to suspend is taken only in response to a breach of the school's behaviour policy, including persistent disruptive behaviour, or where such breaches are neither serious enough to merit permanent exclusion nor minor enough for detention, lesson removal, or lesson removal at host School to be appropriate. All suspensions are authorised by the Headteacher or designated representative or in their absence the next most senior member of staff.

Under exceptional circumstances a student may receive a suspension but if further investigation reveals more serious circumstances then a permanent exclusion may be issued.

All suspended students will be given some work to complete and may be expected to write a restorative letter apologising for their actions leading to the exclusion. As part of their reintegration students may be expected to spend some in lesson removal.

A re-integration meeting will take place at the earliest available time on the first day the student is to return to school. The reintegration meeting will aim to clarify next steps and discuss if any additional support is required. Failure to attend will result in the student remaining in lesson removal until the reintegration meeting can be held.

9.0 Permanent Exclusion (PEX)

A decision to exclude a student permanently should be taken only:

- a. in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy; **and**
- b. where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school

The act of setting off the fire alarm without good cause may lead to PEX, due to the huge disruption caused and potential harm to vulnerable students.

A serious breach of the school's policy may result in a PEX. The list below indicates the circumstances where a PEX may occur (at the discretion of the Headteacher) and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- assault or attempted assault on staff;
- violent assault- including any form of filming, sharing and distribution;
- sexual assault, harassment or exploitation;
- drug-related activity/paraphernalia;
- criminal or terrorist activity;
- carrying a weapon or dangerous object;
- extremely dangerous/risky behaviour; and
- setting off the school fire alarm.

For detailed information on Permanent Exclusion please see TWMAT Exclusion policy.

10.0 Maintaining a Positive Learning Environment

A positive learning environment is best maintained through the focus on and positive reinforcement of good behaviours and not through the confrontational challenge of negative behaviours. We recognise this through the effective use of our staged reward and sanctions systems.

Staff make a commitment to 'catch students being good' as often as possible and reinforce this through non-verbal and verbal acknowledgement and praise as well as using some of the more formal rewards available. Staff also make a commitment to deal indirectly with some negative behaviours in this fashion too. An off-task student can often be redirected through praise of a neighbouring student who is working and behaving appropriately. When staff do feel the need to resort to formal warnings and staged sanctions they are committed to doing so in a calm, non-confrontational and professional manner at all times.

11.0 Drugs

The school will not tolerate drug possession, use or supply of any sort on school property or during off-site school activities. The school will sanction any student found to be supplying, possessing or taking drugs. This includes the possession, supply or misuse of solvents, vape fluids or other substances that can be harmful. Students may be permanently excluded if they are found to be involved in any drug-related incidents. Where controlled drugs are found, these will be delivered to the police as soon as possible but may be disposed of if the staff member thinks there is a good reason to do so.

12.0 Alcohol

Consuming, carrying or supplying alcohol is strictly prohibited. Any student involved in any alcohol-related activity may be permanently excluded.

13.0 Medication

Carrying, supplying or taking prescription medicines illegitimately could result in a permanent exclusion. We are aware that it may be necessary for some students to take medication during the school day. Parents/carers should complete an 'Administration of medicines in school' form and bring it together with the medication to student reception. This form authorises our first-aid trained staff, to dispense medication on their behalf. All medication brought into school by parents/carers is stored in a locked cabinet.

14.0 Smoking- including all forms of e-cigarette/vaping devices

Smoking (including vaping), in all its forms, is detrimental to health, anti-social and not conducive to a safe school environment. We will apply this policy to any student who is seen smoking/vaping or we suspect of smoking/vaping. Any sanctions applied will consider the nature, location and frequency of the incident.

Smoking/vaping is not permitted anywhere on the school site.

15.0 Search and Confiscation

The school follows government advice when confiscating items from students which is outlined in the document 'Searching, screening and confiscation. Advice for Headteachers, school staff and governing bodies.' July 2022.

[Searching, Screening and Confiscation \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

The school can confiscate any electronic items being used inappropriately on the premises such as mobile phones, etc. The school reserves the right to view, confiscate and delete any files deemed to be inappropriate that are brought on to the school site on electronic equipment e.g. photos on a mobile phone. In certain circumstances, we reserve the right to retain electronic data as evidence.

Students wearing any accessories or jewellery which do not follow the school uniform policy can expect to have these items confiscated. Any confiscated item will be logged and available for collection at the end of the school day. Where a student is unable to immediately rectify a uniform issue eg. Hair dye or false nails they will spend time in the lesson removal room until they are able to follow uniform expectations. In all cases parents will be informed and given the opportunity to rectify the issue.

Where students repeatedly break rules, they may be asked to hand in items at the beginning of each day to reduce unnecessary time wasting for teachers. Students may also be asked not to bring items to school at all eg. mobile phone and bag searches used to support this. For repeated offences of this nature parents will be asked to collect confiscated items. Where items have been previously returned to parents and have been brought again to school, they will be confiscated again and retained until the end of term. Where items are not collected the school will dispose of them at the end of every term.

Students with smoking/vaping materials, including electronic devices and fluid will have these confiscated and destroyed whether they are found to be smoking/vaping or not. They will also be issued with a sanction for bringing such materials on to the school premises. Students will also receive sanctions for smoking/vaping near the school, and if they are recognisable as a School Student on their way to and from school.

In certain instances, items will not be returned to students and will be disposed of by the school according to the guidance in the DfE document as above.

Students must not bring any of the items listed below on to the school premises. The school will automatically confiscate any of the items below and has the power to search students with or without consent. There may also be severe penalties for students with these items, including permanent exclusion. The following are some examples, but not limited to:

- knives or weapons;
- alcohol;
- illegal drugs;
- stolen items;
- tobacco, filters and cigarette papers;
- fireworks;
- pornographic images;
- any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the student). This would include: matches, lighters, 'legal highs', and laser pens;
- E-cigarettes/vapes/fluid;
- fizzy drinks;
- energy drinks;
- hot water bottles;

- pictures of staff or students taken without appropriate consent; and
- medication which has not been accounted for under the medication policy.
- Magnets or any item that may be used to interfere with school systems, equipment, or safety
- Laser pens or items that may pose a safety risk

School staff apply the following protocols when searching for or confiscating items. Searches will only be conducted by authorised staff members.

Search protocol - key points:

- a. Searches should only be carried out by a member of staff of the same gender as the student being searched. There MUST always be a witness – wherever possible a member of the same gender as the student.
- b. Always seek to gain consent of students to search their bags and ask them to empty their pockets. If they refuse, then please escort them to a safe place and inform SLT.
- c. Please ask students to empty their own pockets fully and allow you to look through their bag and any coat/jacket pockets.
- d. A metal detection device (non-contact) may be used if deemed appropriate.
- e. Anything found which you believe is inappropriate, regardless of whether it was what was being searched for, should be confiscated.
- f. Parents should be informed of anything found which is inappropriate.
- g. All searches should be logged.

16.0 Use of reasonable force

The school is strongly against the use of reasonable force and other restrictive interventions against students and the advice to all staff is to seek support and advice in any situation before using reasonable force or other restrictive interventions. However, there may be instances where this is not possible due to the nature of the incident. The school and its staff will always endeavour to resolve situations without reasonable force and other restrictive interventions and to manage any situation calmly. The school follows the guidance below from the DFE: 'Use of reasonable force and other restrictive interventions in schools Guidance for schools in England'. July 2025

[Reasonable force-](#)

16.1 Who can use reasonable force

All members of school staff have a legal power to use reasonable force in certain circumstances, these include:

- to prevent or stop a pupil from causing injury to themselves or others,
- committing a criminal offence,
- damaging property,
- or doing something that prejudices discipline at the school, whether during a teaching session or otherwise.

Examples of the above could include but are not limited to:

- removing disruptive children from the classroom where they have refused to follow a reasonable request to do so;
- preventing a student behaving in a way that disrupts a school event or a school trip or visit;
- preventing a student leaving the classroom where allowing the student to leave would risk their safety or lead to behaviour that disrupts the behaviour of others;
- preventing a student from attacking a member of staff or another student, or to stop a fight; and
- restraining a student at risk of harming themselves through physical outbursts.

Unacceptable use of force

School staff must never use force on a pupil for the purpose of punishment. Pupils should not be deliberately restrained in a way that affects their airway, breathing or circulation, for example by covering the mouth and/or nose or applying pressure to the neck region or abdomen.

Where needed, the pupil should receive a medical assessment and treatment for any injuries as soon as possible. For any form of restraint, including seated and standing, there is a risk of physical and psychological harm, and it should be avoided where possible.

17.0 Student conduct outside the school premises

We aim to prepare students for a life beyond education. The School therefore reserves the right to apply all aspects of this policy to students recognisable as a Marine Academy student (not just by their uniform) even if they are outside of the school grounds, or outside the usual hours of attendance, or using social media/online activity. What the law allows is laid out in the latest DFE Guidance [Behaviour in Schools](#).

Teachers have a statutory power to discipline students for misbehaving outside of the school premises. Section 89(5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives Headteachers a specific statutory power to regulate students' behaviour in these circumstances "to such extent as is reasonable."

The School may apply sanctions to a student for any misbehaviour when the child is:

- taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity;
- travelling to or from school;
- wearing school uniform; and
- in some other way identifiable as a student at the school.

At any time, whether the conditions above apply, that:

- could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school;
- poses a threat to another student or member of the public; or
- could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

The School is committed to ensuring our students act as positive ambassadors for us. We expect the following:

- good order on transport to and from school, educational visits or other placements such as work experience or college courses;
- good behaviour on the way to and from school;
- positive behaviour which does not threaten the health and safety of our students, staff or members of the public;

- reassurance to members of the public about school care and control over students in order to protect the reputation of the school; and
- protection for individual staff and students from harmful conduct by students when not on the school site including online/social media.

The same behaviour expectations for students on the school premises apply to off-site behaviour.

17.1 Sanctions and disciplinary action as a result of poor behaviour off the school premises

Sanctions may be given for poor behaviour off the school premises including online behaviour and use of social media which undermines any of the above expectations and regardless of whether it is an activity supervised directly by school staff. Sanctions may be in the form of detention, lesson removal, suspension or in very serious cases permanent exclusion. In issuing sanctions, the following will be considered:

- the severity of the incident;
- the extent to which the reputation of the school has been affected;
- whether students were directly identifiable as being members of the School;
- the extent to which the behaviour in question would have repercussions for the orderly running of the School and/or might pose a threat to another student or member of staff (e.g. bullying another student or insulting a member of staff);
- whether the misbehaviour was on the way to or from school, outside the school gates or in close proximity to the school; and
- whether the misbehaviour was whilst the students was on work experience, taking part in a course as part of a school program, participating in a sports event (and in any situation where the student is acting as an ambassador for the school) which might affect the chances of opportunities being offered to other students in the future.

18.0 Wilful and Accidental Damage

Our approach is as follows:

- If damage is accidental, providing this is the first incident involving a particular student, there will be no charge levied on the student.
- If the damage is the result of reckless behaviour, e.g. running inside the building, throwing an object at a peer, etc. the school will levy a charge 50% of the total repair/replacement cost. The maximum charge will not exceed £150. The precise amount levied will depend upon the presence of any mitigating circumstances.
- Students causing accidental damage as a result of reckless behaviour will always be subject to sanctions that include remedial action (where appropriate) and/or detention and/or Lesson removal. Details of the incident will be placed on internal files.
- If the damage is the result of a willful act the school will consider whether there were any mitigating circumstances. Students causing willful damage (graffiti, vandalism, etc.) will face a charge of 100% of the total cost of repair or replacement. The maximum charge will not exceed £500. The precise amount levied will depend upon the presence of any mitigating circumstances.

Students causing wilful damage likely be subject to either internal or external exclusion. In every incident of wilful damage (where damage is estimated to cost over £25 to repair) the school will inform the Police.

The school and the Police will work together to bring about a satisfactory resolution within the guidelines above. In extreme or repeated circumstances damage may be logged as a crime. The Police may also act as facilitator in acts of restorative justice that might include remedial work or conferencing with parents and other parties. Invoices will be raised by the Finance office and pursued to an appropriate solution. If payment is not forthcoming, a restorative measure of appropriate gravity should be imposed.

19.0 Behaviour of parents/carers

We are passionately committed to building strong and positive relationships between the School and parents and carers. We are grateful for regular feedback from parents via questionnaires at parents' evenings and on a day-to-day basis. Staff emails are made available to allow efficient communication between parents/carers and school. Staff liaise closely with parents to support effective transition into the school.

All members of our School community will do everything they can to support all students, parents and carers, communicating professionally at all times.

The School has a duty to ensure staff work in a positive environment free from any form of harassment or intimidation. To this end the school will take firm action against any parents who behave inappropriately towards the school or any members of staff this includes the use of banning orders or specifying specific mechanisms of communication.

The School deems any form of aggression or threat either physical or verbal, rudeness and malicious accusations as inappropriate, and this includes all forms of communication including emails and social media.

As a response to inappropriate behaviour by a parent/carer the Headteacher may place a temporary ban on a parent entering the school site or specify specific forms of communication to be used, putting in writing the reasons for the ban or details of mechanisms for communication and giving the parent an opportunity to respond. A Governing Body Sub-committee will be convened (consisting of 3 Governors) to review the Head's decision, and parents will be able to share their views in writing but will not be invited to the hearing. The Governors' Hearing will decide if a ban or limitations on communications should remain in place and decide on the appropriate timescale for these, giving a specific date at which they will be reviewed.

20.0 Allegations against staff

The School has a clear Complaints Policy, which is published on its website, and encourages parents/carers to use this as necessary.

The School should not automatically suspend a member of staff who has been accused of misconduct, pending an investigation, but the Headteacher should draw on advice given in 'Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and Other Staff' guidance.

Parents and carers should also be aware of the prohibition on reporting or publishing allegations about teachers in section 141F of the Education Act 2002. If parents or carers wish to apply to the court to have reporting restrictions removed, they should seek legal advice. If we are made aware of any inappropriate comments we will report these to the relevant authorities for immediate action to be taken. Publishing allegations should be taken to include publication online or on social media such as Facebook.

All allegations against staff will be investigated in line with the School's relevant policy and all complaints have the potential for consequences for the staff concerned.

20.1 Malicious/false allegations

Where it is concluded that a student has made a malicious allegation against a member of staff the school sanctions will be applied in a way that the school considers to be proportionate to the severity of the allegation made and its potential impact on the member of staff concerned. Mitigating and aggravating factors will be examined closely, for example: the nature of the allegation or length of time for which the allegation was sustained. In some cases it will be appropriate to use restorative justice as a tool for supporting students to understand the consequences of their behaviour. The sanctions for malicious allegations could include lesson removal, internal exclusion, suspension and permanent exclusion.

21.0 Complaints

The school has a complaints procedure. We encourage parents/carers to take any complaints or concerns to a staff member or the Headteacher and the school will do everything within its power to help resolve conflict or complaints swiftly and effectively. For details of the full complaints procedure see our **School Complaints Policy**. For information on complaints relating to exclusions, see the **School Exclusions Policy**. **Both of these policies are available to download from our website.**

22.0 Yondr phone free school

At Marine Academy Plymouth, a phone-free approach supports our commitment to high standards of behaviour, learning, and safeguarding. Removing mobile phones from the school day enables students to focus fully on their learning, reduces distractions, and promotes positive attitudes in the classroom. It also encourages respectful, face-to-face interaction, strengthens relationships, and supports students' wellbeing by reducing exposure to online pressures. This approach ensures a calm, purposeful, and inclusive environment in which all students can thrive.

The removal of mobile phones during the school day at Marine Academy Plymouth has been in place since September, implemented through a staged approach. The Lock Box system has been introduced gradually, allowing students to adapt to clear expectations around a phone-free school day, supported by consistent staff implementation and the wider confiscation process. This approach has enabled strong routines to be established, with students in Years 7–9 now fully embedded in the system and continuing to use the Lock Box for the remainder of the academic year. Year 10 are the first year group to use Yondr pouches as the method to ensure a phone-free school day.

Contact with home

Our policy on this has not changed. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please call main reception on 01752 213939. The team will be happy to pass on any messages. Should your child need to contact you urgently throughout the school day, they can speak to a member of staff and use a school phone.

Medical and other exceptions

Where a student has a medical need to have access to their phone, for example diabetes, we will provide a pouch without a lock on it. This will enable the student to check their phone when required for medical reasons. Lock free pouches will be issued on a case by case basis following appropriate medical evidence being supplied. For students with medical needs that we are already aware of, we will ensure a medical pouch is supplied.

If a mobile phone pouch is lost or damaged

If a student damages or loses their pouch, they should inform their tutor or year team at the earliest opportunity. All students are given the opportunity to demonstrate that they can use their pouch responsibly and keep it in good condition.

All students in the building are expected to complete the morning Yondr pouch routine. This routine will help identify any students who have not brought their pouch into school. Tutors will then contact the year team to ensure these students are directed to use the original hand-in box system, which is managed by the year team.

If a student forgets their pouch, they will be required to hand in their phone using this 'Lock Box' box system.

If a phone is found outside of a pouch, it will be collected by staff and securely locked away until the end of the school day, at which point it can be collected from student reception.

Lost or damaged pouches must be replaced or the student must join the 'Lock Box' system. We will contact home to arrange a payment of £15 for a replacement pouch. Where second-hand pouches are available, these may be purchased at a reduced cost of £5

Examples of damage to a pouch include any of the following, which prevent it from functioning properly:

- Broken or missing locking mechanism
- Torn or split fabric
- Damage that allows the phone to be removed without unlocking
- Burn marks or deliberate vandalism
- Any alteration to the pouch that compromises its security
- Cut, torn or ripped fabric
- Bent or cut pin
- Signs of force to black button on flap
- Damage to the black ball
- If a pouch opens without an unlocking station

If there is evidence that a pouch has been damaged deliberately, this will be seen as a breach of our behaviour policy and will be treated differently (see below).

Actions taken if a phone pouch is deliberately damaged		
First occasion	Second occasion	Third occasion (or more)
- Phone confiscated. - Confiscation logged on ClassCharts. - Parents will be asked to attend a meeting, at which they will be able to collect the phone. - Student will spend one day learning in compass. - Parents to be charged £15 for a pouch or students join the 'Lock box system'. This can	- Student to remain in 'Lock Box collection' - Parental Meeting - Parents to be charged £15 for a pouch. This can include the damage of other pouches. - Student will spend a day learning at a host school placement.	- Student to remain in 'Lock Box collection' - Parental Meeting - Parents to be charged for a new pouch (£15). This can include the damage of other pouches. - Student will be issued with a Fixed Term Suspension.

include the damage of other student pouches.		
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If a student refuses to hand over a mobile phone then this could result in a Fixed Term Suspension.

If a phone is seen in school

If a student is found in possession of a phone outside a mobile phone pouch, this is considered to be a breach of the school's behaviour policy. This could be the result of:

- Bringing multiple phones into school
- Failing to properly secure their phone during tutor routines
- Damaging a pouch in order to access the phone during the school day
- Accessing an unlocking station or alternative magnet during the school day

Actions taken if a student uses a mobile phone during the school day		
First occasion	Second occasion	Third occasion (or more)
- Phone confiscated. - Confiscation logged on ClassCharts. - Parents will be asked to attend a meeting, at which they will be able to collect the phone. - Student will spend one day learning in compass. - Students added to 'Lock Box system'	- Phone confiscated. - Confiscation logged on ClassCharts. - Parents will be asked to attend a meeting, at which they will be able to collect the phone. - Student will spend a day learning at a host school placement. -	- Phone confiscated. - Confiscation logged on ClassCharts. - Parents will be asked to attend a meeting, at which they will be able to collect the phone. - Student will be issued with a Fixed Term Suspension. - Implementation of a risk assessment.

If a student refuses to hand over a mobile phone then this could result in a Fixed Term Suspension.

Spot checks

On Call and duty staff may ask to check Yondr pouches periodically throughout the day. This will involve simply asking a student to take the Yondr pouch from their bag and show it to the member of staff. The member of staff will check that it has been locked and is working properly.

Our tutor routines and checking have been designed to ensure that all students leave tutor time with a locked pouch. If a pouch is found to be open, with the phone accessible, it will be assumed that it has been left open deliberately. The actions taken are set out below.

Actions taken if student is found to have left their mobile phone pouch unlocked		
First occasion	Second occasion	Third occasion (or more)
- Phone confiscated. - Confiscation logged on ClassCharts. - Parents will be notified of the above and the new arrangements.	- Phone confiscated. - Confiscation logged on ClassCharts. - Student to join 'Lock Box System'.	- Phone confiscated. - Risk assessment and met at reception for assisted pouch locking. - Confiscation logged on ClassCharts.

- Student will spend one day learning in Compass.	- Student will spend a day learning at a host school placement.	- Parents will be asked to attend a meeting, at which they will be able to collect the phone. - Student will be issued with a Fixed Term Suspension. -
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If a student refuses to hand over a mobile phone then this could result in a Fixed Term Suspension.

Forgotten pouches

If a student forgets to bring their pouch to school, they should let their tutor/year team know at the earliest opportunity. The phone will be collected and locked away using the 'Lock Box system' the end of the school day. when they can collect it from reception/hub. If a student frequently forgets their pouch the Head of Year will contact home to discuss a permanent move to to the 'Lock Box' system.

Students possessing unlocking stations

If a student is found in possession of a Yondr unlocking station, or a similar strength magnet used to unlock the pouches, it will be confiscated, and the student will be placed into compass whilst the matter is investigated. Bringing an unlocking station or a similar strength magnet into school and using it to unlock their own or others' phones could result in a hosting or Fixed Term Suspension.

Lock box system

Students who have forgotten, lost, or damaged their pouch, or who have specific arrangements in place due to risk assessments or previous breaches of this policy, will be required to use the lock box system.

Year teams will collect phones from these students at the start of the school day and place them securely into lock boxes located in reception. These boxes are stored in locked offices with CCTV in operation to ensure security. Students will be able to collect their phones at the end of the school day from their year hub office.

Accidental Damage

If a mobile phone pouch is damaged accidentally, please notify the school at the earliest opportunity, explaining what has happened.

Lost or damaged pouches will need to be replaced. We will contact home to arrange for a payment of £15 for a replacement pouch. When second-hand pouches are available, these can be bought for £5. Alternatively students will join the 'Lock Box System'.