

# Fettes College

## Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy 2021-22

Updated: Sept 2021  
Review Date Sept 2022  
Responsibility: Pastoral Leadership Team

# Behaviour & Discipline Policy

## **Promoting Positive Behaviour and Standards**

The School's *Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy* is based on our belief that all members of the Fettes community, staff and students alike, have an individual responsibility to contribute positively to a tolerant, inclusive school society. This is supported by the generally excellent relationships between students and staff. Students are asked to pursue their own goals with enthusiasm but with respect for others; they are asked to treat others with empathy, understanding and tolerance as outlined in our *Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy*.

## **DISCIPLINARY STANDARDS & SANCTIONS**

All students are expected to follow the School Rules and there are clear guidelines on serious offences.

### **Drugs**

In the case of any involvement with drugs or other illegal or prohibited substances, the student will normally be asked to leave the school. Students who, by their behaviour or their associations, give cause for suspicion that they might be misusing drugs may be required to take a drugs test. By signing the Final Entry Form (see Part B, paragraph 2) the parent(s)/guardian(s) give their consent to testing for drugs being carried out in the circumstances set out above. Where the school suspects or confirms the involvement of any student in drugs, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be contacted. The use of New Psychoactive Substances (often referred to as 'legal highs') are also prohibited.

### **Alcohol**

The school attempts to maintain a balanced approach to alcohol. It has developed the following policy to ensure the welfare of students and compliance with the law.

It is against the law for anyone under the age of 18 years of age to buy alcohol.

Students, whether under or over the age of 18, are forbidden to buy alcohol, and/or consume alcohol outside of the school during term time, and/or to bring alcohol onto the school premises. The only exception to this is for students over the age of 18 and strictly in the circumstances set out in the following paragraph.

As part of students' social education, the school aims to make all students aware of the risks involved with alcohol whilst at the same time introducing the senior students to responsible drinking in an appropriate social context and under supervision. Consumption of spirits is forbidden. The possession and use of fake ID is also not allowed in accordance with the law.

If any student breaches the school rules on alcohol they will be seen by the Senior Master and will be required to undertake agreed community service and be gated (confined to school grounds) for an appropriate period of time. Parents/guardians will also be informed in writing.

Any second offence or a breach of the rules will mean that the student is seen directly by the Head.

Senior students who purchase alcohol for younger students are liable to face severe sanctions.

If a Middle School student breaks the rules on alcohol they will not be allowed to attend Saturday night social dances and ceilidhs for the next calendar year. If a Sixth Form student contravenes the rules they will not be allowed leave on a Saturday night Indulgence for the next four opportunities.

**Sexual Misconduct:** Students involved in sexual misconduct will normally be asked to leave the school.

**Theft:** Theft is a serious offence as it has a very corrosive impact on a boarding community. Anyone who steals, whether in or out of school, will be seen by the Head and their position at the school will be at risk.

**Bullying:** The school takes any allegation of bullying very seriously and all cases are investigated thoroughly in accordance with our *Counter Bullying Policy*. Where appropriate, we seek to employ restorative measures as well as sanctions. In serious cases it is likely that the bully will be internally or externally suspended and a written warning given that in the event of further trouble the bully will be asked to leave the school. In the most severe cases the bully may be excluded.

**Smoking:** Fettes is a no-smoking campus for staff, parents/guardians and students. Vaping is included in this and the punishments are the same. Any contravention by a student will lead to a two-week gating (being confined to the grounds). The Houseparent will write to inform parents. For a second offence there will be a three-week gating. The student will be seen by the Senior Master who will write to inform parents. If a third offence is committed the student will be seen by the Head. We consider smoking in buildings particularly anti-social and unacceptable as it also involves health risks and the threat of causing a lethal fire. In such cases the matter might be referred directly to the Head. E-cigarettes are also not allowed. Any student who would like help with smoking cessation will be offered support through the Medical Centre.

**General Breaches** of the school rules and policies may result in the student being referred to the Houseparent or the Senior Master with possible consequent loss of privileges. Serious issues will be brought to the attention of the Head. Persistent breaching of the rules is likely to result in loss of privileges and gating. The Houseparent may also find jobs for the student to do.

If a student, who is under 16, is seen by the Head or Senior Master on an issue which could lead to serious action being taken, a member of the Child Protection Team will be present. In all disciplinary meetings the Houseparent, or in unavoidable circumstances their Assistant, will be present to support the student.

Major breaches of school discipline may result in internal suspension, external suspension or the student being asked to leave the school. Internal suspension is as serious a punishment as external suspension. It involves the student staying in school but losing their free time which is instead used for extra study or community service.

If a student is asked to leave the school the Head will first discuss the matter with the Chair of Governors and the parents/guardians have a right to appeal, for which a separate panel of Governors would be set up.

**Internet access & use:** Students are required to read and electronically sign the ICT Acceptable Use Policy. The Policy is included in the School Handbook. A breach of the Policy may result in a ban from the ICT Network for a period of time and other disciplinary measures.

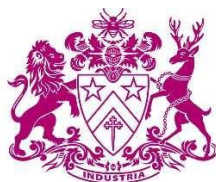
**Dress Regulations:** We require members of the school to be well turned out and to give a good impression. The School Uniform Policy is to be adhered to. We expect students coming to classes or going on trips to be in uniform that is tidy, with clean shoes, ties properly tied, hair brushed and with kilts and blazers properly worn. The School Uniform Policy is included in Section 3 of the School Handbook and in all House handbooks. Full uniform guidance is listed at the end of this handbook.

Dress regulations for ordinary activities and for games are published in House Handbooks. Casual clothes may be worn at specified times. These must be clean, tidy, decent and named and must meet with the complete approval of Houseparents. Extremes of fashion are not permitted.

### **Gating**

This sanction is given only for repeated or more serious offences. Whilst gated, a student may not leave the School grounds except for official School activities and must carry a Gating Card which is to be signed at specified, regular times throughout the normal School day.

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