1. Principles of Pastoral Care

Life at Shrewsbury School is founded upon a close partnership between staff, parents and pupils to promote the strength of family life and foster the moral responsibilities of living in a caring community. All the pastoral care offered by the school is built upon relationships and the understanding knowledge of individuals nurtured during their time here. Shrewsbury seeks to preserve the innocence of school days but also to nurture its pupils in their formative years so that they can take the next stage of their development and education with confidence, security and good judgment.

The school rules are prominently displayed in all Houses and are implemented more by encouragement and approval than by punitive measures. Infringements of these rules are often dealt with as part of the broader pastoral process and emphasis is placed upon the educational value of mistakes and on finding a positive outcome in disciplinary situations. Proper attention is paid to the important distinction between an individual and his or her actions, with the role of formal sanctions being to express disapproval of certain modes of behaviour. All staff are encouraged to participate in the maintenance of good behaviour and discipline but more serious offences will be dealt with by the Housemaster/Housemistress, Deputy Head (Pastoral), Second Master or Headmaster. Praepostors assist in this area of school life by undertaking a range of supervisory duties, as directed by the Deputy Head (Pastoral). They also act as ambassadors for the school and are expected therefore to provide leadership through example.

2. Introduction

Shrewsbury’s Behaviour Policy is underpinned by these principles of pastoral care and reflects our commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils in our care. In order to achieve this, the atmosphere in school must support the teaching and learning that takes place thus enabling all pupils to realise their potential and ultimately thrive.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following other documents; The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy (Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy September 2020.pdf), the Anti-Bullying Policy (Anti-Bullying Policy September 2020.pdf). Conducting a Search and Confiscation Policy, the Complaints Procedure, the Educational Visits Policy and the ‘Yellow Card’ all of which are available to parents. Copies of these documents are located on the school website (www.shrewsbury.org.uk). Reference has been made to DfE Guidance: ‘Behaviour and Discipline in Schools’ (Jan 2016) and KCSIE Sept 2020.

3. Expected behaviour at Shrewsbury School

The following emerged after a series of meetings involving a wide range of members of the school community. Its purpose is to serve as the basis for a ‘Code of attitude and conduct’ and represents something which all Salopians are expected to commit to.
‘We, the pupils of Shrewsbury School, accept responsibility for our conduct and the way in which it is perceived, both as individuals and collectively. We understand that, at all times, our conduct and appearance should demonstrate respect for others and ourselves. Outside school, as within, we maintain these fundamental standards.’

Peer on Peer abuse is not tolerated at Shrewsbury. All pupils should be aware of how this can manifest itself. This is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

• bullying (including cyberbullying);
• physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm
• sexual violence and sexual harassment including Upskirting
• sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery)
• initiation/hazing type violence and rituals

Pupils are encouraged through HSM, tutors, PSD lessons and safeguarding assemblies to report such behaviour. The school’s response for breaches of conduct involving Peer on Peer abuse will be investigated by a DSL and recommendation of sanction made to the Headmaster by the Discipline Committee.

**How we conduct ourselves**
- We are courteous, thoughtful and compassionate in the way we speak to other people; pupils, teachers and support staff, everyone in our community.
- We are accepting of all individuals regardless of differences and we entirely reject any form of prejudice or discrimination.
- We are understanding and supportive of the needs of all members of our community.
- We respect our own and others’ property.
- We are courteous and thoughtful at all times (paying particular attention to conduct in Kingsland Hall, off-site activities, the House and sports field.).
- We treat the school site with respect, taking particular care neither to drop litter nor to damage the grounds or the fabric of the site.

**How we appear**
- Our appearance should convey pride in ourselves and in our school.
- While the school ‘Dress Code’ allows for some individuality, our appearance should always reflect a sense of modesty, dignity, professionalism and due consideration for others.

**How we work**
- We respect the right of others to learn and teachers to teach. We try our best academically.
- We respect deadlines and accept responsibility for our own organisation and timekeeping.
- Our use of technology is responsible, respectful and in line with school policies.

This expected code of behaviour at Shrewsbury is based on common sense, common courtesy and a reciprocal sense of trust between staff and pupils. Salopians are asked to pursue their own goals with ambition but with respect for others. They are asked to treat others with sympathy, understanding and tolerance thus responding positively to the demands that community life places upon them.

**4. Prohibited items**

The Headmaster and teachers have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item. Prohibited items are:

- Knives or weapons
- Alcohol
• Illegal drugs
• Stolen items
• Tobacco and cigarette papers
• Fireworks
• Pornographic images
• Any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used:
  o To commit an offence,
  o To cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil)
• The following items which are banned by the school:
  o Any substances intended to resemble drugs, legal drugs, performance enhancing drugs, anabolic steroids, glue or any other substance held for purposes of misuse.

The school’s policy with regard to the confiscation of pupil’s property is detailed within the ‘Conducting a Search and Confiscation Policy’.

5. A system of rewards for achievement, effort and good conduct

The reward for good behaviour is largely in the quality of life and relationships Salopians build among themselves and with staff. Shrewsbury takes pride in celebrating the success of its pupils and communicating this success to them and to their parents. To this end, there are a number of procedures in place to reward achievement, effort and behaviour. The following is by no means an exhaustive list, but merely highlights a number of the key elements;

❑ The school commendation system allows teachers to reward pupils for their academic endeavours.
❑ A Headmaster’s Commendation may be awarded for an outstanding piece of work.
❑ Outstanding achievement in examinations is recognised with a special award from the Headmaster.
❑ The House Colours system enables Housemasters/Housemistresses to acknowledge achievement, loyalty, service and overall contribution to House life. Housemasters will also draw attention to examples of achievement, effort and good conduct in their regular House meetings.
❑ School Firsts are awarded at the end of each academic term in recognition of outstanding service or achievement within the broader context of the school.
❑ The School Floreat system allows pupils achievements to be recognised weekly: this is specially deigned to reward the everyday achievements of Salopians and not the headline acts.
❑ The electronic ‘Pupil Comment Slip’ enables teachers to record a positive endorsement of pupil conduct, attitude and work. A copy of this is sent to the Deputy Head (Pastoral), Second Master, Deputy Head (Academic) as well as the pupil’s Housemaster/Housemistress and personal tutor.

Housemasters/Housemistresses are in regular contact with parents and communicate ‘good news’ both formally and informally. In addition to this, the Headmaster recognises particular achievements of pupils in his regular letters to parents.
6. A system of sanctions

There are many ways in which pupils may need disciplining but this need not involve harsh sanctions; indeed, it is in the nature of the school that punishment is seen as a last resort. Often a verbal reprimand will do. However, when things do go wrong, when rules are broken or expectations not met, staff may invoke the following sanctions;

**Blue Penal**
If a pupil fails to submit a piece of work or is required to re-do work to a higher standard then they may be asked to complete this on 'Blue Penal'. Both the tutor and Housemaster/Housemistress must then sign the piece of work.

**Tardy Book**
If pupils are late for formal school commitments then the member of staff involved may enter the pupil’s name in Tardy Book via ISAMS. This means that the pupil concerned must sign in with the Deputy Head (Pastoral) at 7.15am on Friday morning, (Day Pupils at 7.45 am).

**Site Service**
This sanction may be used for pupils who fail to show due respect for the school and its facilities. It may also be used for those who ‘cut’ either chapel or extra curricular activities. Pupils given Site Service will carry out an appropriate task as instructed by the assigned member of staff at 8.00am on Saturday morning in Alington Hall.

**Academic Detention**
Individuals who persistently misbehave in the classroom, persistently fail to meet academic deadlines or persistently fail to equip themselves properly for lessons may be awarded an Academic Detention. Any pupil put on Academic Detention must inform his/her Housemaster/Housemistress immediately, see their Head of Section at 8.00 am on Monday and report to room M8 at 7.45 am on Tuesday to serve the detention.

**School Detention**
This is designed for those offences which cannot be dealt with immediately, or in any other way, by the teacher and which are sufficiently serious for the matter to be brought to the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and/or Headmaster’s attention. Any pupil put on School Detention must inform his/her Housemaster/Housemistress immediately, report to the Pentagon at 8.00 am on Saturday morning for interview and report to room M8 at 7.30 pm on Saturday evening in school dress. Pupils placed on School Detention are also gated for that Saturday.

**Gating**

**House Gating**
A Housemaster/Housemistress may ‘gate’ a pupil for a period of time, for a variety of reasons including frequent lack of adherence to rules or for being off-site without permission/outside of allotted times etc.

**School Gating**
This sanction may be awarded by the Headmaster, Second Master or Deputy Head (Pastoral) and would be for one week to include a two-hour Headmaster’s Detention on the Saturday evening. Pupils are expected to complete all entries on the Gating Card and present their completed cards to their Housemaster/Housemistress. Any pupil serving a School Gating may not ‘represent’ the school. Members of the sixth form who are gated are banned from ‘Quod’ until further notice. At the relevant member of staff’s discretion, pupils serving school gating may be asked to undertake a variety of tasks around the site. At the end of the period of school gating a letter will be sent home from the Headmaster outlining the reason for and significance of the sanction. Internal Rustication of suspension from school may well be the next step should such misbehaviour continue.
Anyone who is gated is confined to his or her House or the School Site as specified by his/her Housemaster/Housemistress. They must complete a Daily Gating Card and submit this to his/her Housemaster/Housemistress.

**Internal Rustication**
This sanction ranks alongside suspension and typically runs for 3 days. Pupils may be internally rusticated following a serious breach of school discipline or a pattern of poor academic work. During this time pupils attend lessons as normal, but conduct supervised work outside of lesson time when they would normally be engaged in extra-curricular activities. Pupils are gated for the duration of the rustication.

**Suspension and Exclusion**
A pupil may be sent home for a period of time specified by the Headmaster. If an individual is persistently in breach of school rules or their attitude and behaviour are seriously damaging to the life and welfare of others, or for a single major breach of law, rule or morality, he / she may be asked to leave the school.

In any incident where suspension or exclusion may be considered, the matter must be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. This is chaired by the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and includes the Second Master and another senior member of staff. The committee makes recommendations of the appropriate sanctions to the Headmaster.

7. **Use of restraint**
Whilst the use of physical restraint should never be confused with the imposition of school sanction, any use of physical restraint will be by reasonable and non-injurious means. Such physical intervention should only be employed when immediately necessary and for the minimum time necessary to prevent injury to self or others or very serious damage to property. Examples of this must always be recorded, in writing, and reported without delay to the Deputy Head (Pastoral). In line with the law of the land corporal punishment is not tolerated at Shrewsbury School. The DHP keep a central log of these instances.

8. **Roles and responsibilities**
All members of the teaching staff have a role to play in maintaining good order and discipline. They must have informed and reasonable expectations of pupil conduct, considering the particular needs of pupils, for example those with SEND, and be prepared to talk through and engage with issues of behaviour directly with the individual concerned before considering the use of sanctions.

Housemasters/Housemistresses have responsibility for the safety and welfare of pupils in their Houses. They are expected to maintain good house discipline and to encourage and reward effort and achievement in all spheres of school life. They will be the first and main point of contact with parents and staff about all aspects of a pupil’s behaviour and personal development.

Tutors play an important role in reminding their tutees of the school’s expectations in all aspects of behaviour. They provide a ‘listening ear’ for pupils and work to help any particular pupil navigate an appropriate way forward.

The Deputy Head (Academic) liaises closely with Heads of Faculties to monitor sanctions imposed in relation to academic matters.

The Deputy Head (Pastoral) is responsible to the Headmaster for managing all issues of discipline and conduct within the school. They review these areas and any associated policies at regular intervals and briefs all members of staff on disciplinary matters and works closely with Housemasters/Housemistresses to monitor pupil conduct. The DHP keeps records of all detentions.
and writes a ‘termly review’ as well as ensuring the Headmaster is kept informed of any serious breaches of school discipline.

The Headmaster and Deputy Head (Pastoral) work together to keep consistency of sanction over 13 houses. HSM’s are expected to report all serious breaches in discipline in their house to the DHP. Statements from the pupils are staff involved are written and passed to the DHP. The DHP will bring the matter to the HM’s attention and review policy. The final decision of sanction level lies with the Headmaster.

The Headmaster is responsible to the Governors for ensuring appropriate standards of discipline within the school and for the promotion of positive conduct. Working closely with the Second Master, he will decide the main principles of the ‘Behaviour Policy’. The Headmaster will determine all issues of suspension and exclusion.

The Governors endorse the principles underpinning the policy and require the Headmaster to ensure appropriate standards of discipline within the school.

September 2020 (Deputy Head Pastoral) To be revised September 2021