



DISCIPLINE AND SANCTIONS

In a well run community with a positive environment and extensive opportunities for purposeful activity, conduct is invariably good. However, firm but fair discipline must also exist. Most children will pass through the school without getting into serious trouble. Obviously most, if not all, will have received a word of advice or rebuke at some stage.

Sanctions are limited and, consequently, are infrequently required. "The more sanctions there are the more crime there is to match". The list of sanctions used can be seen in the School Policy Statement on Discipline. There is no corporal punishment at Aldwickbury School. The Deputy Head (Pastoral) maintains the minus book for day to day offences. A record of serious sanctions is kept by the Headmaster.

Discipline and sanctions in the school are ultimately the responsibility of the Headmaster and he is informed of all serious misdemeanours. The day to day discipline is the responsibility of all staff, especially the duty staff. The Deputy Head (Pastoral) plays a key role in maintaining good order and is responsible attitudes throughout the school. The Deputy Head (Pastoral) and Form Tutors also provide steps of discipline below the Headmaster.

Expectations of good behaviour are high in all areas of school life. Children are expected to own up to misdemeanours without fear or disgrace. Every effort is made to discover culprits. Trouble taken in this way has an effect on children as it shows that staff care. This in itself should act a deterrent for most pupils. Senior pupils have a very important role in helping to ensure that proper order is maintained. All of those in their last year are appointed to some position of responsibility. The major role that they should fulfil is that of example.

Discipline is enhanced by positive reinforcement of all that is good within our community. Hard work and excellence are rewarded by the plus points system. Good work is displayed, musicians are heard publicly and excellence in any field is praised in morning assembly. Staff must use praise and encouragement in all dealings with the boys, thus improving boys self esteem.

Aldwickbury School Policy Statement - Discipline.

This is known by the Staff so that everybody is clearly aware of the expectations. Firm and even discipline must be maintained at all times. The School will be more efficiently run if there is an even and sensible standard of discipline. Although senior members of staff may set the tone on discipline, this should not be left to them alone. Each member of staff should be responsible for discipline throughout the school, though care should be taken not to tread on other people's toes – it would be more prudent to speak to the member of staff in charge, rather than try to upstage them.

Boys in this age group are naturally talkative, but it is pointless giving instructions unless they are silent – they then at least appear to be listening. Having gained their attention, instructions should be given clearly and concisely.

Sanctions:

These should generally be short and sharp. No two members of staff will react alike, and sanctions are bound to differ, but here is a list of acceptable sanctions:-

1. Often, a verbal reprimand is sufficient; it is a warning and, in general, a warning should be given first and a sanction only for subsequent offences.
2. If possible, let the sanction fit the crime – i.e a boy who talks with his mouth full at table could be told to remain silent for, say 5 minutes. For being untidy; manual tasks, such as tidying an area of the School or picking up litter, can be assigned. For being over-boisterous, a boy could be put on silence for a short period of time, or an appropriate written task. For breaks in discipline the minus book can be used. This provides a written record of the behaviour and the boy is seen by the Deputy Head (Pastoral).
3. Written impositions should be constructive and, preferably, of academic benefit. The Deputy Head (Pastoral) has a collection of suitable ideas for constructive impositions.
4. Detentions at break times are a good way to inconvenience a boy, but these must be administered by the member of staff concerned, as this shows that they are involved.
5. Informing the boy's parents of serious misbehaviour is an effective sanction and in such cases should only be done through the Headmaster. Form Teachers, and Tutors especially in the younger forms should keep parents up to date of day to day behavioural issues.
6. Withdrawal from school teams can be a useful sanction, although this may only be implemented through the Headmaster.
7. Suspension from School, to be administered only by the Headmaster, is for very serious breaches of the School Rules or antisocial behaviour and should be considered as a final warning about the boy's future in the School. The Headmaster would inform the Chairman of Governors in such a situation.

Summary Scale of Sanctions:

- a. Ticking Off
- b. Putting on silence
- c. A job to do
- d. A Minus to be recorded in the book and the Deputy Head (Pastoral) to see the boy
- e. Detention
- f. Withdrawal of Privileges
(eg: Prefects or not being allowed to play in a school match)
- h. Interview with the Headmaster

NB: Serious offences should always be brought to the attention of the Headmaster or the Deputy Head (Pastoral), whether or not the incident is deemed suitable for a minus. The Headmaster has the following scale of sanctions:-

- a. Ticking-off and general support of sanctions already imposed by a member of Common Room.
- b. Detention – the boy gives up some of his free (play) time to sit silently (reading or doing some other suitable task) near the Study but away from the other boys.
- c. Withdrawal of privileges such as representing the school.
- d. Parents brought in for discussion
- e. Suspension
- f. Withdrawal from School

NB: Communications. If a member of Common Room finds a boy persistently troublesome in any way, he should communicate and discuss the problem with the boy's Form Tutor, Tutor or the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and, if a boarder, with the Headmaster.

The school rules that are published and displayed around the school and should be well known by the boys.

Headmaster
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