

# Behaviour Policy



Approved by:	Governing body
Reviewed on:	April 2026
Next review due by:	April 2027

Good behaviour in schools is central to a good education. Schools need to manage behaviour well so that they can provide calm, orderly, safe and supportive environments in which children and young people want to attend and can learn and thrive. Being taught how to behave well is vital for children to succeed personally and for them to successfully navigate the communities they inhabit.

Pupils will not always behave perfectly...schools can create environments where positive behaviours are more likely, by proactively supporting pupils to behave appropriately and by addressing misbehaviour effectively.

*Behaviour in schools, Dfe, Updated Feb 2024*



At Appletree Gardens First school we are on a mission to **“grow our learning”**. We know that we learn best when we feel **happy and safe** and our physical, emotional and social needs are being met. We proactively support this culture in everything that we do as the foundation for behaviour for learning. We use clear and consistent behaviour support strategies and ensure we are continually developing our knowledge and implementation of behaviour practice to support our community and maintain high standards.

This policy has been written in consultation with staff, pupils, parents and governors at Appletree Gardens. The headteacher is responsible for ensuring this policy is followed and effectively implemented.

Links with other policies and practices

This policy links with several other policies, practices and action plans that include:

- € Anti-bullying policy
- € Online safety policy
- € Child protection / Safeguarding Policy;
- € Remote and Blended Learning Policy;
- € Equality & Diversity Policy.

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Our policy aims to:

- Develop thoughtful, caring pupils who can learn to manage their own feelings and behaviours and consider the feelings of others.
- Support a calm, purposeful, safe and happy learning environment.
- Create a consistent approach to behaviour throughout the school, celebrating and praising acceptable behaviour and enforcing clear boundaries for unacceptable behaviour.
- Support pupils with SEND by making reasonable adjustments to ensure that they are supported to meet these expectations in a fair and inclusive way.
- Encourage each child to take responsibility for their own behaviour, leading to increasing independence and self-discipline.
- To foster a respect for differences including cultures and beliefs.
- To support understanding around behaviour choices and promote a growth mindset to problem solve and learn from misbehaviour.
- To work in partnership with all stakeholders to achieve consistently high behaviour expectations.

**At Appletree, we manage our environments thoughtfully to support behaviour for learning. Throughout school we aim to support positive relationships and mental and emotional wellbeing as the foundation for positive behaviour for all. We do this by:**

- Leading by example in the way that we treat each other and the children in our care.
- Building positive relationships with pupils and their families to understand, support and promote good behaviour.
- Developing a progressive understanding of relationships, mental health and wellbeing through our Jigsaw PSHE scheme, our value assemblies, theme weeks, Thrive sessions and classroom activities.
- Valuing achievements at all levels.
- Working in partnership with parents\carers in dealing with any behavioural issues.
- Encouraging respect for individuals.
- Providing organised, ordered learning environments with calm, safe spaces.
- Displaying our behaviour vision clearly e.g. shared values, rules, timetables and mental health registers.
- Sharing consistent classroom rules and consequences.
- Providing structured lessons and a consistent timetable\ school day which is shared with all pupils.
- Continuing to develop our (staff) understanding of the complex reasons for behaviour and the strategies to support.
- Developing roles and responsibilities for pupils within the learning environment.

**We expect all pupils to demonstrate the same high standards of respect, responsibility and kindness when engaging in online activity. This includes digital devices, online platforms and emerging technologies such as AI. Mobile phones/ smart watches are not allowed in school unless by a special agreement. We have smooth wall as our monitoring and filtering system within school. If online activity impacts on a child or group of children out of school we take prompt steps to address this by talking to the children, recording any incidents on CPOMs and speaking to parents/ carers so that they can take the necessary steps at home.**



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Pupils are taught to recognise and respond safely to online risks, including misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy content, which KCSIE 2025 identifies as emerging safeguarding harms. They learn about AI in an age-appropriate way and are expected to use emerging technologies such as AI safely and respectfully following school guidance for their safety/ well-being and that of others.

## Staff at Appletree First will:

- Agree class rules at the beginning of each school year, display them in the classroom and refer to them as appropriate. Explain the steps following misbehaviour and the consequences for this action.
- Ensure consistent language linked with behaviour; blossom code, good sitting, good listening, good looking, kind hands, kind feet, kind hearts.
- Make children aware of high expectations of behaviour in all situations. Share and develop the blossom code at all opportunities.
- Develop pupil understanding of behaviour at all opportunities during a school day including during PSHE lessons, value and celebration assemblies.
- Recognise and identify pupil needs in a school day for example, a mental health register, Thrive support, calm time, talk time.
- Deal with behaviour calmly (tone, body language) and consistently.
- Be as consistent and fair as possible in the use of rules and consequences, considering each individual child's needs.
- Follow up behaviour incidents to unpick the child's behaviour. For example: testing boundaries? An unmet need? Sensory dysregulation? Lack of understanding? Use the ABC model to track behaviour and identify causes. (Appendix 1)
- Support the needs of individuals with reasonable adjustments to access learning.
- Focus on good behaviour and positive reinforcement to raise self-esteem, giving praise for good behaviour and achievements.
- Create a calm working atmosphere in the classroom, with access to resources and with well-established routines for clearing up, collecting equipment, changing activities etc.
- Ensure high quality teaching and learning, that motivates children, where each child has work appropriate to his/her level of ability and is provided with any necessary support.
- Be aware of all children's behaviour in class and around school, dealing with every incident appropriately, giving mutual support to colleagues.
- Work in partnership with parents in dealing with any behavioural issue.
- Use CPOMs, our secure database to log, track and monitor behaviour incidents.
- Act as a role model for desired behaviour, treating all adults and children with respect.
- Work closely with senior leaders and outside agencies, implementing advice and strategies in dealing with a child with social, emotional, SEND or mental health difficulties.

## Pupils at Appletree Gardens First School are supported and encouraged to:

- Be proactive in creating and understanding our school rules.
- Grow their strategies to self-regulate and manage their own and others wellbeing.
- Follow the rules to support positive behaviour for learning.
- Talk openly to trusted adults/staff in school.

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- Strive to be role models for behaviour e.g. older pupils supporting younger pupils.
- Take responsibility for their own behaviour choices and understand and accept consequences.
- Grow their values, for example British Values, knowledge of religions and cultures to support cooperation, diversity and inclusion.
- Hold responsibilities in school e.g. classroom monitors, buddy, school councillor
- Actively promote the school rules and the blossom code.

## Parents should:

- Work in partnership with the school to promote high standards of behaviour at all times and support the implementation of the behaviour policy.
- Support the school to manage incidents of behaviour promptly and with respect and sensitivity.
- Support school to 'unpick' behaviour to support pupil development.
- Report any concerns around misbehaviour directly to the class teacher.
- Support their children by informing the teachers of changes in the home or incidents outside school (e.g. Family issues or changes, cyberbullying) that may affect a pupil's need in school.
- Ensure their child has good punctuality and good attendance.
- Help the children understand rules and the need for them in an ordered society.
- Act as a role model for desired behaviour, treating all adults and children with respect.

## The Blossom Code

In order to prioritise positive behaviour and include our community in our vision, we invited parents and children to work together on the values behind our blossom code. We aim to use this code as a shared and meaningful way to understand and emphasise the behaviour we know supports a happy and safe environment.



<b>Be Respectful</b>	Kind hands, kind feet, kind words, kind hearts. Look after your own and the school's property.
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	Remember everyone has the right to learn. Respect and celebrate your differences. Wear your uniform with pride.
<b>L</b> earn from mistakes	Grow your learning. Correct mistakes to help you grow.
<b>O</b> rganised and on time	Come to school every day and on time. Follow routines to help keep a calm classroom. Line up carefully to help us all stay safe. Walk around school with consideration for others. Work together to keep the classroom tidy together to support learning.
<b>S</b> afety First	Kind hands, kind feet, kind words, kind hearts. No jewellery of any kind. Always ask an adult if you need to leave the learning environment you are in. (classroom, hall, playground) Keep the school tidy and hazard free especially exits and corridors. Know what to do if you have any safety worries.
<b>S</b> hare and support	Celebrate your differences. Share your successes and achievements. Support your friends to learn. No to bullying. No to Cyberbullying.
<b>O</b> pen your mind	Always try your best. Never give up. Be brave and try new things. Respect other people's opinions.
<b>M</b> anners matter	Use your manners wherever you go.

## Praise:

Praise is a positive strategy to support high standards of good behaviour. We use:

- Weekly whole school value assemblies and celebration assemblies
- Whole School house point BLOSSOM code challenge
- Whole school golden table lunch award
- Verbal praise / Non-verbal communication (smile, thumbs-up, nod)
- Class reward systems: celebrating success, resilience, perseverance, having a go
- Stickers and certificates
- Whole class awards e.g.: golden time, extra playtime
- Extra responsibilities
- Reporting to parents (verbally, stickers and certificates, Seesaw, Parent consultations, Report)

## Responding to incidents of misbehaviour

The priority will be to ensure the safety of the pupil, other pupils and staff and to restore a calm and orderly environment. All members of staff will respond predictably, promptly and assertively to incidents of misbehaviour. Where appropriate, staff should take account of any contributing factors that are identified after an incident has occurred, for example, if the pupil has an additional need or

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any concerns from home/ school. Staff are trained to respond in a calm manner and use de-escalation strategies.

Consequences will be consistently applied to maximise their predictability. When appropriate, staff will make time for a pastoral discussion to support the pupils understanding of the consequence and improved behaviour, going forward.

Disruptive behaviour and behaviour which infringes the rights of others does not represent our school values. This should be dealt with using a kind, but firm stance using both Thrive and Restorative Approaches. Staff will invest time with individual pupils, remaining calm, whilst attuning to their feelings and validating the emotions they are experiencing. They will then support the pupil in feeling safe and being able to self-regulate. Once pupils are in an emotionally stable place to do so, staff will then work with pupils to problem solve and if need be 'make amends'.

**See Thrive poster (Appendix 4)**

**Children who begin to misbehave or show signs of dysregulation should;**

1. Be reminded of our school rules and the rights of others;
2. Be given a warning and a choice and reminded of the consequences.
3. Be given time to reflect and make the choice;
4. Be given a suitable sanction that supports pupils to understand that their actions have consequences.
5. Be given a safe space to regulate if this is required.

Sanctions\ Consequence will be suitable for the age group/ year group/ SEND need and be explained and understood by all pupils. For example, *loss of activity time/ playtime/ a privilege* described as 'Thinking Time' to give pupils a chance to reflect on their action.

**A restorative conversation** should be used to address misbehaviour.

This needs to suit the situation (it may be very short) and be age / stage appropriate.

(See appendix 2 for a detailed conversation strategy)

It should:

Be delivered when the pupil is calm and able to receive the message.

Support pupils to talk about their actions or behaviours and understand the impact of them upon themselves and others.

It may also, depending on the incident / misbehaviour:

Give the pupil skills to strengthen relationships,

Help them to tolerate differences of opinion, manage conflict and take responsibility for their behaviour choices.

We consistently prioritise this approach in our practice by using language that is appropriate for the child's age or developmental stage. See Appendix 2 and Thrive poster Appendix 4.

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## A Restorative Conversation

**A restorative conversation could follow this line of questioning. It is important that all parties are involved.**

What happened?

What were you thinking or feeling at the time?

How do you feel about what happened now?

Who was affected by what happened?

How can we make things right?

How can we do things differently in the future?

We choose our language carefully to support to calm, encourage reflection and self-regulation.

### Time to regulate

Staff will always consider whether pupils need some calm time or a movement/sensory break. This could include working in a quieter area of the school, working in another classroom, undertaking supervised physical activities (e.g. outdoor gym), or mindful activities, going to a 'safe space' within the classroom or regulating in a different room / area. Where they go, will be a professional judgement call of the teacher who has knowledge of the child.

### Support from a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Behaviour incidents are recorded on CPOMs. This supports monitoring and analysis from the safeguarding SLT team. Class teachers are encouraged to manage behaviour within their classes to develop consistent relationships and sustain positive behaviour choices. SLT support staff with advice, observations, individual plans, risk assessments and referrals. Staff always involve a member of the SLT for more serious misbehaviours such as violent incidents, damaging school property, stealing, bullying or an online safety breach.

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## Supporting Behaviour Management and Inclusion

Children are individuals and have individual needs. This is equally true with relation to the behaviour and discipline within the school. Whilst all pupils are expected to adhere to school rules, some pupils may need additional support to achieve the level of behaviour that is expected. The school will:

- Identify pupils who are experiencing difficulty with behaviour.
- Strive to identify any underlying causes and take appropriate action.
- Encourage children to be responsible for their actions and to play a part in setting targets for improving their behaviour.
- Ensure all staff are aware of any issues and how to apply the school's policy appropriately.
- Provide individual or small group Thrive sessions to build pupil self-esteem and offer opportunities to work on targets/ share strategies.
- Work in partnership with parents to develop consistent strategies to deal with behaviour
- Follow the SEND policy.
- Seek advice and guidance from other agencies as appropriate, e.g. Local Inclusion Support Team, LA SEND team, Early Help, Children and Young People's Service, School Nurse\ Supernanny, Health Visitors.

As a school, we want all our pupils "to grow" and have the same opportunities to learn. If a child is struggling to follow the school rules we would explore, as a team, why this might be. A pupil may have additional needs or require extra support. Our SENDCo supports the class teacher to initiate a support plan and if required seek additional funding for resources, including, if appropriate, extra staff. We also access support from a range of agencies, for example, outreach support, behaviour support, the school nurse team and Special Educational Needs specialists.

## Suspension\ Exclusion

This may be necessary if a pupil has not responded to additional strategies put in place.

The school follows the [Department For Education guidance](#) and updates on exclusion. Only the headteacher of a school can exclude a pupil and this must be on disciplinary grounds. Parents will be notified by the headteacher in all cases and pupils will be involved at an appropriate level. A pupil may be excluded for one or more fixed periods (up to a maximum of 45 school days in a single academic year), or permanently.

Permanent exclusion will only be used as a last resort, in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy; and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

## Restrictive interventions including the use of reasonable force

Pupils whose behaviour is presenting a risk to themselves, or others would be identified as early as possible. A pupil risk assessment will be undertaken to manage these risks carefully. This will focus on strategies to **de-escalate, maintain, calm and prevent using early intervention.**

Schools have a legal duty of care for all their pupils.



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All members of school staff have a legal power to use reasonable force in certain circumstances.

(DFE guidance April 2026)

To prevent or stop a pupil from:

1. causing injury to themselves or others
2. committing a criminal offence
3. damaging property
4. causing disorder among pupils at the school, whether during a teaching session or otherwise

Where a pupil is creating a situation where they are posing a physical threat to the wellbeing of others or themselves, reasonable force may be used to restrain. In these circumstances staff will always consider:

**Is it necessary?** Are there other ways to deal with the situation - De-escalation, a change of face (a different staff member). Will it reduce the relevant risks, or would it escalate the situation further?

**Is it proportionate?** Restraint should only be used in a way that supports the child and de-escalates the situation. Individual medical and SEND needs should also be considered. If the intervention taken is escalating the situation staff should re-consider and try an alternative strategy.

**Has the welfare of the pupil been considered?** For example, a child who has sensory needs or has experienced significant trauma may react very differently to another child. Staff will seek to maintain and respect a child's dignity. Where possible staff will clearly and calmly communicate what is happening and why. This would include non-verbal strategies if appropriate.

Due to the young age of children in at Appletree Gardens there may be incidents where a restrictive intervention is used in a fast-moving situation. **For example, if a child was about to run or step into a road with traffic an immediate intervention would be deemed appropriate.**

After an incident involving the use of restrictive intervention staff will evaluate as soon as practicable after the event to understand why it was used, the impact on pupils, health and safety of staff and any patterns or trends. This would include how the use of restrictive interventions might be avoided in future, for example by amending or introducing a behaviour support plan. If appropriate, the pupil and staff member involved should receive a medical assessment. The incident should be shared with a DSL\ Senior leader as soon as practicable and support to record and respond can be given.

**Incidents are recorded on our behaviour crisis record (see Appendix 3)** A copy should be uploaded to CPOMs and parents / carers should be informed. This helps us reflect and track patterns of behaviour, keeps our practice expectations safe and consistent and has the pupil's and staff wellbeing at the centre. Emphasis is focused on re-establishing communication and engagement with the pupil and working in partnership with parents and careers.

## Parent and Carer Code of Conduct

Our BLOSSOM Code extends to our community and we expect adults to act as role models for our pupils.

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We would ask that all adults in our school community follow the code of conduct below:

<p><b>Be Respectful</b></p>	<p>No smoking, vaping, drinking alcohol or taking drugs whilst on school property including at the entrance and exits. No dogs or any other animal on the school grounds;</p>
<p><b>Learn from mistakes</b></p>	<p>Continue to 'grow your learning' alongside us. Work with us to resolve any problems, concerns or issues.</p>
<p><b>Organised and on time</b></p>	<p>Support your child's best attendance by getting pupils in school, on time every day.</p> <p>Support your child's best attendance by taking holidays in school holiday time.</p> <p>Support your children to grow their learning by making sure they are organised for their school day with the equipment they need.</p> <p>Support your children to grow their learning by supporting them to complete home reading and home learning tasks.</p>
<p><b>Safety First</b></p>	<p>Don't damage or destroy school property.</p> <p>Don't threaten another adult or child or use physical aggression towards an adult or child.</p>
<p><b>Share and support</b></p>	<p>Get involved in positively supporting the school and your children. Make sure you attend parent meetings.</p> <p>Do not use social media to make defamatory comments about the school, school personnel, pupils, or governors;</p>
<p><b>Open your mind</b></p>	<p>Please respect other people's opinions.</p> <p>Treat all members of the Appletree community fairly, equally and with respect.</p>
<p><b>Manners matter</b></p>	<p>If you are upset or concerned about an issue relating to school, please make an appointment to discuss it with the relevant member of staff.</p> <p>Don't send abusive or threatening emails or phone calls or use disruptive behaviour.</p> <p>Don't use offensive or discriminatory language or malicious comments.</p>

To support our BLOSSOM code and a safe and happy environment, unacceptable behaviour from adults will be managed appropriately by the headteacher\ senior management team. Our aim will always be to resolve situations in partnership with parents and carers. The following steps will be taken as necessary:

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- A polite verbal warning.
- A formal written warning if an adult continues to demonstrate unacceptable behaviour.
- A second formal written warning if the behaviour continues stating that if the behaviour continues then the adult will be banned from the school grounds.
- The adult will be banned from the school grounds in line with [dfe guidance](#).

**Parents have the right to appeal in writing, for the attention of the Chair of Governors.**

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## Appendix 1

### ABC Model



<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	<b>Staff name:</b>	
<b>Time and Location</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Antecedent/ Trigger</b>	<b>Behaviour</b>	<b>Consequence</b>

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	<b>Staff name:</b>	
<b>Time and Location</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Antecedent/ Trigger</b>	<b>Behaviour</b>	<b>Consequence</b>

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	<b>Staff name:</b>	
<b>Time and Location</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Antecedent/ Trigger</b>	<b>Behaviour</b>	<b>Consequence</b>

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## Appendix 2



### Restorative practice\ conversation

#### Regulate

We need to feel safe and regulated to share personal experiences of harm

#### 1. Attune

The member of staff gets down to the child's level. It is important to mirror the behaviour, speaking calmly and slowly. Try to keep eye contact.

#### 2. Validate

Let the child speak, using the term 'wondering' to try and encourage the pupil to explore the incident for themselves. Use adult speak to repeat what they've said to make it clear. For pupils struggling to articulate the adult may support with 'I can see that you are...(describe feeling). Validate their feelings. Let them know that it's ok to feel like that and that everybody feels like that sometimes.

#### 3. Contain & Regulate

Depending on the child, ensure the child is contained e.g. letting them know what is going to happen and when; moving them to a 'safe space' (area of containment) inside or outside the classroom; or giving them some form of sensory stimulation e.g. fidget toy, calming music, a book etc.

#### Recognise

Recognising the harm we experience and cause, supports us to address and redress it

#### 4. Problem solving

Don't give children the solution but support them in finding it. Use the language of 'wondering' to explore incidents so no pressure is put on a pupil who is already dysregulating or is not ready to share their experiences e.g. "I'm wondering if this might have happened....". If they offer it, take it. It is then agreed. If another pupil was involved, try and build in how that person might have been feeling, or how they were affected. Again, this could be through the language of 'wondering'; "I'm wondering how that might have made xxxx feel?"

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<h2>Repair</h2>	<h2>Successful repair can strengthen and sustain secure relationships</h2>
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### 5. 'Making Amends'

Once the child has solved the problem, talk to them about making amends (Think about the use of sorry as this can be an 'empty' word). This could be tidying up if they have made a mess or damaged something, writing an apology letter, making a card, or simply giving someone a hug. If two people are involved, encourage positive touch through a hug or if they are not comfortable with this, a secret handshake for example.

### 6. 'Notice' afterwards...

Once the child is regulating again and has returned to learning, begin to give specific praise again using the language of 'noticing' e.g. "I noticed that...."

## Appendix 3 Behaviour Crisis Recording Form

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Duration of Incident:</b>
<b>Name of Student:</b> (Note details such as SEND status)	<b>Staff Involved:</b>	<b>Location of Incident:</b>

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**Brief description of the incident.**

**Trigger(s) observed (where applicable)**

**Risk Behaviour(s) observed:** Behaviour that presents an imminent or immediate risk to the child or others. *At this point, physical interventions may be considered.*

**Staff Response(s):** De-escalation should always come first, if physical intervention has been used be specific about the type of intervention.

**Signed (Author):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Staff:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed (Senior Leader):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents Informed of Incident:**            Y / N

**Copy on CPOMS with a plan for restorative work.** Y/ N

## Appendix 4

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## Key Points:

- ★ Children need to know: **YOU MATTER TO ME**
- ★ How are children expressing their feelings?
- ★ *Connection Seeking NOT Attention Seeking*
- ★ **STRESS** is not the same as **DISTRESS**
- ★ Be **TOUGH** on the boundary but **KIND** on the child
- ★ Widen their 'Window of Tolerance'

## Techniques to use...

<p><b>P - Playfulness</b>  <b>A - Acceptance</b>  <b>C - Curiosity</b> →  <b>E - Empathy</b></p>	<p><b>P</b> - Child's level, calm, eye contact.  <b>A</b> - Explore incident, "I wonder", "I can see that you are... (describe feeling), validate.  <b>C</b> - Safe space or sensory stimulation, 'wonder' about incident and other child.  <b>E</b> - Making amends, help tidy or rebuild, give hug, apology (careful sorry is not 'empty' word).</p>
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**FEEL IT & DEAL WITH IT**  
 If we can *name* them (feelings), we can *tame* them.

## Vocabulary / Phrases to use...

**WIN**  
**WONDER, IMAGINE, NOTICE**  
 "I wonder..."  
 "I imagine..."  
 "I notice..."

**Try changing...**  
 "BUT" to "AND"  
 "CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR"  
 to "DISTRESSED BEHAVIOUR"

- Children who begin to misbehave or show signs of dysregulation should:
1. Be reminded of our school rules and the rights of others;
  2. Be given a warning and a choice, and reminded of the consequences.
  3. Be given time to reflect and make the choice;
  4. Be given a suitable sanction that supports pupils to understand that their actions have consequences.