Encouraging Positive Behaviour at St. John's Community Primary and Nursery School

"If people are good only because they fear punishment, and hope for reward, then we are a sorry lot indeed." Albert Einstein



At St. John's we believe in praising the positive and will always do this first. Staff will look for the good behaviours to praise, reward and encourage rather than focussing on negative behaviours and negative language.

The following list is just a few of the strategies staff may use to encourage excellent behaviour at school.

Stickers and reward charts and teacher certificates

These may be used to encourage individuals or groups to improve or maintain good behaviour.

Star of the week/Star of the day



A child may be chosen for excellent behaviour to provide reward and recognition and incentive for all children to aspire to.

Secret Star

The teacher may choose a pupil at the start of the day and will keep their identity secret. During the day the teacher may comment on how 'on track' they are based on their attitude and behaviour during the day. At the end of the day the pupil, if they have done well, will be awarded with their sticker etc. If not reasons will be shared but the name of the child will not- encouraging all pupils to reflect on their behaviour

Gold Book Awards

Children will be rewarded with a special Gold Book certificate during the year from their class teacher- this may be used to encourage positive behaviour

Credits and House Trophy

Children may get credits for good behaviour and these are put towards a House trophy awarded every week in assembly.

Table of the week and table points

Encourages children to work together collaboratively and support one another with excellent behaviour.

Modelling of good behaviour and positive language

All staff will model positive behaviour in and around school. Language used by staff will be positive focussing on the positive and NOT the negative eg 'next time, remember to walk in the corridor' as opposed to 'stop running!'

However we recognise that sometimes children require further strategies for managing behaviour and below are just a few which may be used.

Time Out

On occasions it is best to remove a child from a situation giving them time to 'cool down' and the situation opportunity to de-escalate. This may mean a child is sent on an errand for 5 minutes or asked to work in another class for 5 minutes

Talking it through

Children will be encouraged to talk through their behaviour and consider the effects it is having on themselves and others- they will then think of steps to move forward.

Circle of friends

Children may be asked to work with others to help support their behaviour eg at playtimes by acting as good role models.

As a last resort children may have to miss a playtime or an event to consider their actions. This time may be spent with the Deputy or Headteacher.