

I CAN BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT APPROACH

At I CAN Schools, we want to ensure that all pupils can thrive as individuals in a safe learning environment through integrated education, therapy and care.

As a school which works with children and young people with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN), we recognise some of our pupils can behave in ways that might be challenging. We will strive to understand why this happens and what we can do to help them communicate their needs effectively.

This leaflet sets out I CAN's Behaviour Management Approach, to ensure that every pupil can learn in a safe environment.

The Principles of our Behaviour Management Approach

All our staff are trained to anticipate behavioural difficulties and then to take a proactive, rather than reactive, approach that is built on rewards rather than punishment.

We strive to teach pupils to be emotional and socially resilient, to forge sustainable relationships and manage disappointment.

The Aims of our Behaviour Management Approach

- A primary aim of our school is that every member of our community feels valued and respected. Our Behaviour Management Approach is designed to ensure that all children are treated fairly and consistently.
- To create a positive learning environment that is based on care, co-operation, consideration and trust.
- To encourage children, with the assistance of parents, to learn to make positive choices concerning their own behaviour.
- To celebrate and reinforce positive behaviour to build confidence and self-esteem.
- To develop the children's understanding of what it means to be a responsible and respectful citizen in our community.
- To ensure that all members of our school community feel safe and supported and are not affected by any issues related to bullying.

Our Behaviour Management Approach

We recognise that each pupil is different and has very specific needs. Before your child joins one of our schools, they will undergo a multi-disciplinary assessment at one of our Centres. As part of this assessment they may be seen by an educational psychologist and a Speech Language Therapist to understand the support they need and consider any challenging behaviour that they may show. If required, a Behaviour Support Plan will be drawn up in partnership with the pupil's parents/guardian and signed off by both parties.

Whilst at the school, the staff will work with your child constructively to help them to manage their behaviour. The schools use a range of therapeutic interventions and resources to meet the needs of the pupils. Pupils with the most complex needs will often receive enhanced staff support.

We encourage all pupils to take responsibility for their own actions and behaviours and we believe that rewards motivate good behaviour, rather than sanctions deterring unwanted behaviour. We actively

work with pupils to help determine which rewards work for them, as they know best what motivates them.

We want all pupils to plan for success. However, there may be occasions when they benefit from a separate, supervised, space to calm down and reflect. Very occasionally they may need this space for a longer period of time. When this happens, parents will be informed. I CAN will never keep a pupil in a locked room or held against their will.

How we communicate with your child

For children and young people with SLCN it is important that they can articulate their needs and emotions. This can help them understand the causes and triggers for their frustration if they are finding communication difficult. All our teachers and staff are trained in effectively engaging children and young people and will use appropriate language to ensure that pupils understand what is being asked of them. A raised voice will only be used in exceptional circumstances and where appropriate, for example to warn of danger.

I CAN schools place emphasis on the quality of teaching and learning. We aim to identify signs and signals which precede challenging behaviour. By anticipating changes in behaviour, we can often forestall it or re-direct it in safe ways. In this way, we aim to provide an educational environment that is tailored to individualised needs.

How we work with your child

In exceptional circumstances, I CAN staff may need to use physical interventions to prevent a pupil from hurting themselves or others, damaging property or causing a disorder. Our staff are trained in Team Teach, a de-escalation and positive handling approach, and we work within the Department for Education guidance (The Use of Reasonable Force 2013) to ensure that all pupils are kept safe and away from harm.

Our commitment to parents

- I CAN will always inform parents if a situation occurs where staff must use physical interventions
- I CAN encourages parents to ask questions of staff to support their child's learning and development
- I CAN will continue to celebrate your child's successes and achievements

We regularly review our Behaviour Management Approach in the following ways:

- Annual Parent Questionnaire
- Annual Care Inspections
- Ofsted Inspections
- Local Authorities Reviews
- I CAN Trustee Commissioned Safeguarding Reviews

If you have any questions about the school's approach to Behaviour Management please contact the school Principal.