







Onchan Primary School
School Road, Onchan, Isle of Man IM3 4PD

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Onchan Specialist Provision Centre (SPC) Behaviour Policy

Aims

- To provide a safe, nurturing environment where risks are minimised.
- To establish supportive environments where pupils can learn, practise, and master skills for managing their own behaviour.
- To implement robust, targeted, and assessed interventions that promote positive behaviours.
- To understand the function of behaviour and support pupils in finding more appropriate ways of communicating their needs.
- To enable pupils to recognise the link between actions and consequences.
- To foster positive relationships between pupils, peers, and staff, built upon mutual respect.

Specialist Provision Centre Overview

At Onchan SPC, we recognise that all behaviour is a form of communication. What may appear as 'challenging' behaviour often reflects a pupil's difficulty in communicating their wants and needs appropriately.

Staff are aware that pupils may experience challenges in particular environments or discomfort due to factors such as sensory sensitivities, illness, or high levels of demand. Our approach remains respectful and responsive to these needs.

To support pupils effectively, we provide proactive and individualised frameworks enabling them to:

- Cope with a range of situations.
- Take appropriate action when they want or need something.
- Communicate with others using appropriate systems (e.g., Sign-a-Long, visual symbols, Gestalts, objects of reference).

Behaviour management at Onchan SPC is always pupil-centred, flexible, and responsive to individual needs. Staff prioritise identifying and modelling positive behaviours, creating opportunities for pupils to practise new skills, and reinforcing positive behaviour consistently and meaningfully.









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Reward System

The reward system is designed to encourage and reinforce positive behaviour. For pupils working at earlier developmental levels, rewards are immediate, powerful, and paired with praise.

Reward systems are tailored to individual motivators and are recorded within each pupil's Personal Behaviour Plan.

Functions of Behaviour

Staff are expected to understand the function behind each pupil's behaviour, recognising that behaviour may be influenced by personal experiences, disabilities, or sensory integration difficulties.

Consequences must always be appropriate to the pupil's level of understanding, as what is negative for one child may be perceived as positive for another.

De-escalation

De-escalation is central to our behaviour management approach. Staff are trained to:

- Build strong and trusting relationships with pupils.
- Gain in-depth knowledge of individual pupils.
- Intervene early using subtle, evidence-based techniques.

The overarching aim is always to minimise risks for both pupils and staff.

Positive Handling

Positive Handling follows the principles set out in Team Teach. Strategies include the use of safe spaces, calm stances, non-threatening communication, and safe physical holds.

Positive Handling is only used when de-escalation strategies have failed, or in emergency situations. All responses must be reasonable, proportionate, and necessary.

Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI)

RPI may be required to prevent harm to pupils, staff, or property. When considering RPI, staff must ensure that actions are reasonable and proportionate, taking into account medical needs and disabilities.

Staff are reminded that certain holds carry elevated risks, such as positional









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asphyxia, prone, or supine holds. Pupils must be monitored closely at all times. All incidents of RPI are recorded in the Bound and Numbered Book.

Calming and Safe Spaces

Calming and safe spaces form an integral part of some pupils' behaviour plans.

These spaces are always supervised and offer protection from environmental stressors.

Time Out, Time In, and Withdrawal

Time Out: Planned, low-stimulus support.

Time In: Adult-led support during behaviour incidents.

Withdrawal: Supervised removal from a stressful situation until the pupil is ready

to return.

Post-Incident Debriefing

Following incidents, pupils are supported to reflect at a level appropriate to their understanding. Debriefs focus on:

- Identifying feelings.
- Recognising needs.
- Exploring alternative responses for the future.

Staff are also supported through informal team debriefs.

Behaviour Plans

Some pupils require personalised behaviour plans. These plans include:

- Medical information.
- Motivators and triggers.
- Behavioural presentation.
- De-escalation strategies.
- Debriefing approaches.

Plans are reviewed at least twice annually, or more frequently if required.

Recording and Reporting

- All RPI incidents are recorded in the Bound and Numbered Book.
 - Significant behaviours are logged on Arbor or CPOMS.
 - Parents and carers are informed of serious incidents, and outside agencies are updated where appropriate.
 - All injuries are documented, and medical support sought where necessary.









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This policy is to be reviewed annually

Adopted: October 2019

Last Reviewed: September 2025 Next Review: September 2026