

Yishun Primary School

Discipline Policy

Our Belief

Our student management approach is grounded in the belief that every child deserves to learn in a safe, caring and supportive environment. Discipline plays an important role in supporting students' character development and overall wellbeing, enabling them to grow not only academically, but also socially and emotionally.

At Yishun Primary School, we believe every student has the capacity to develop self-discipline, make responsible choices and learn from mistakes. Through clear expectations, consistent guidance and strong home-school partnership, we seek to nurture positive values such as respect, responsibility and empathy. In doing so, we guide our students to become confident individuals who are able to act with integrity and consideration for others.

1. What is Bullying?

Bullying involves persistent and intentional hurtful acts, while other hurtful behaviours include once-off insensitive comments and physical fights. Bullying and hurtful behaviours can take various forms, including verbal, social, physical and cyber:

- Verbal: Name-calling, spreading rumours, or making threats
- Social exclusion: Deliberately leaving someone out, or encouraging others to ignore someone
- Physical actions: Pushing, hitting, or damaging someone's belongings
- Cyber bullying: Using online technology like phones, computers, or social media to hurt or embarrass others on purpose and repeatedly

We take a firm stance against all forms of hurtful behaviours, from once-off, insensitive comments to persistent intentional acts of bullying and physical violence. This understanding guides our school in managing different forms of hurtful behaviours.

We recognise that children sometimes have disagreements or say things they don't mean. We help students understand the difference between occasional disagreements, which are a natural part of school life, and persistent bullying behaviour, addressing each situation with care and appropriate support.

2. How We Prevent Incidents

- **Take a firm stance against** hurtful behaviours and bullying
- **Foster a caring and enabling school environment**, with positive teacher-student relationships and strong peer support structure with trained student leaders
- **Conduct Character & Citizenship Education lessons** on empathy, conflict management, resilience and cyber wellness
- **Have regular communications** with staff and students

3. How to Report Concerns

We want parents and students to feel comfortable coming to us with any concerns. You can reach out to us in several ways:

- Direct reporting to any staff member
- Online confidential reporting form
- Parent contact with teachers/school leaders

4. How We Respond

- **Immediate physical and psychological safety** measures for all students involved
- **Prompt investigation** and timely updates, subject to case complexity
- **Safety plans** for affected students
- **Consequences** focusing on learning prosocial skills and restorative practices.
- **Restorative support** including school counselling, external referrals and community resources
- **Partnership with parents** throughout the process, including informing parents at the earliest opportunity

5. An offence is considered serious when a student:

- a) **causes serious harm and/or disruption to self, whether physical, psychological or social; and/or**
- b) **causes serious harm and/or disruption to others, whether physical, psychological or social; and/or**
- c) **causes serious damage to property or resources; and/or**
- d) **shows defiance against authorities**

Categorisation of Offences

Category	Minor	Serious	Very Serious
Attendance & Accountability	Skiping classes, which may result in late coming	• Truancy • Leaving school grounds without permission	NA
Property & Digital Resources	• Negligent damage • Littering	• Vandalism	• Arson • Cybersecurity violations • Trespassing
Conduct & Respect	• Uncooperative behaviour, • Use of vulgar language, insensitive remarks	• Open defiance • Disruptive behaviour	• Gangsterism • Possession of weapons
Integrity & Ethics	NA	• Cheating in assessments • Theft	NA
Interpersonal Harm	Online misconduct (non-threatening)	Bullying (cyber, physical, social, verbal)	• Repeated bullying • Fighting • Assault
Substance Abuse	NA	• Smoking • Vaping • Alcohol • Inhalants	• Drug use • Vaping (Etomidate) • Repeated substance offenses

6. Consequences for Minor Offences

	Minor Offences
First-time offenders	• Suspension of Recess Play; and/or • Corrective Work; and/or • Reflection Essays; and/or • Behavioural Contract; and/or • Research & Presentation to class on harms caused; and/or • Conduct Grade adjustment (where relevant)
Second-time offenders	• Ineligibility for Scholarships/Awards, Leadership Appointments, Overseas Trips, School Team Representation; and/or • Conduct Grade adjustment
Subsequent offenders	

7. Consequences for Serious and Very Serious Offences

	Serious Offences	Very Serious Offences (i.e., egregious)
First-time offenders	• 1 to 3 days of detention and/or suspension; and/or • 1 stroke of the cane (for upper primary and older boys only, with aggravating factors) • AND conduct grade adjustment	• 3 to 5 days of detention and/or suspension; and/or • Up to 2 strokes of the cane (for upper primary and older boys only) • AND conduct grade adjustment (no better than 'Fair') •
Second-time offenders	• 3 to 5 days of detention and/or suspension; and/or • Up to 2 strokes of the cane (for upper primary and older boys only) • AND conduct grade adjustment (no better than 'Fair')	• 5 to 14 days of detention and/or suspension; and/or • Up to 3 strokes of the cane (for upper primary and older boys only) • AND conduct grade adjustment ('Poor')
Subsequent offenders	• 5 to 14 days of detention and/or suspension; and/or • Up to 3 strokes of the cane (for upper primary and older boys only) • AND conduct grade adjustment ('Poor')	•

Note: Schools have the autonomy to add other school-based consequences based on their assessment of each case.

8. How Parents Can Support

Parents play an important role in reinforcing positive behaviour. The school values open communication and partnership with parents, especially when concerns arise. Parents will be informed of significant or repeated incidents and are encouraged to work closely with the school to support their child.

- **Talk regularly** with your child about school experiences and friendships.
- **Teach respectful behaviour** and reinforce healthy digital habits at home.
- **Monitor** your child's online and offline interactions and activities.
- **Share concerns promptly** with your child's Form Teacher or Year Head.
- **Work collaboratively** with school on agreed interventions.
- **Model positive behaviour** in your own interactions, such as being calm and respectful in communications.
- **Use 'teachable moments'** in your daily interactions with your child to explain why certain conduct is inappropriate.
- **Reinforce school values** (i.e. Gratitude, Care, Resilience, Respect, Responsibility and Integrity) in daily interactions and conversations with your child.

9. Get in Touch

We are here to listen and help. If you would like to bring an incident to our attention, you can reach out to us via any of the following methods:

- Call: [+65 6257 7461](tel:+6562577461)
- Email: yps@moe.edu.sg
- Online reporting form: [YPS Care Link](#)
- Inform any staff member

We review this policy regularly to make sure it continues to serve our school community well. Your feedback and suggestions are always welcome.

Together, we shape our students' character, strengthen relationships, and build caring communities.