



# Shoeburyness High School

## Detention Policy

'Building Strong Partnerships, Building Strong Community,  
Building Strong Schools'

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Status:                    | Recommended                   |
| Updated:                   | June 2026                     |
| Next Review date:          | June 2028                     |
| Reviewed and monitored by: | Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral |
| Lead Member of Staff:      | J Banks                       |



## **Detentions Policy**

### **1. Purpose**

At Shoeburyness High School, detentions form part of our structured and graduated behaviour system. They support:

- High expectations of conduct
- A calm and purposeful learning environment
- Consistency and fairness
- Personal responsibility and reflection

Detentions are proportionate, clearly linked to behaviour categories, and applied consistently across the school. The school recognises that behaviour can be a form of communication. Staff will consider whether behaviour indicates underlying needs or safeguarding concerns and respond appropriately.

The school's approach combines clear boundaries with supportive intervention, ensuring that consequences are applied consistently while addressing the needs of individual students.

### **2. Legal Framework**

This policy reflects statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education, which confirms that schools may issue detentions without parental consent and may hold them outside normal school hours.

Our procedures also reflect inspection expectations set by Ofsted regarding consistency, safeguarding and behaviour standards.

Detentions may legally be issued on the same day. However, the school will normally set detentions for the next available school day to allow reasonable notice to parents and to ensure safeguarding and practical considerations, including safe travel arrangements, are fully addressed. In exceptional circumstances where a same-day detention is issued, staff must confirm that it is safe and appropriate for the student to remain on site

### **3. The P and C-Code Behaviour System**

Shoeburyness High School operates a staged behaviour system using P-Codes for instances of positive behaviour and C-Codes for instances of unwanted behaviours. This system is explained several times during the school year to students to ensure awareness, it is also reviewed with staff to ensure clarity and consistency of approach.

The P-Code system is explained in the schools Behaviour Policy, for the purposes of this policy, the focus will be on the link between C-Code levels and detentions. We use the following levels:

#### **C1–C2: Classroom-Level Sanctions**

(Managed within lessons in line with the Behaviour Policy.)

#### **C3 Incident: 30-minute after-school detention**

C3 incidents are issued for repeated disruption, refusal to follow instructions, or behaviour that significantly disrupts learning.

Parents/carers will be informed via the school communication system.

#### **C4 Incident: 60-minute after-school detention**

C4 incidents apply where behaviour is more serious, including:

- Continued defiance
- Removal from lessons
- Failure to attend a C3 detention
- Behaviour impacting the safety or learning of others

Parents/carers will be notified via the school communication system

#### **C5 Incident: 90-minute after-school detention**

C5 incidents are issued for serious breaches of the Behaviour Policy, including:

- Aggressive behaviour
- Significant disruption
- Persistent refusal to comply
- Repeated C4 incidents

A restorative conversation will normally take place alongside the detention. Parents/carers will be notified via the school communication system

## **C6 Incident (Most Serious Incidents)**

C6 incidents represent the most serious breaches of school expectations.

These incidents are reviewed by senior leaders at the end of the school day. Following review, one of the following outcomes will be determined:

- 90-minute after-school detention
- A period of time in **Rebuild** (internal intervention provision)
- Suspension (in line with statutory guidance)

Decisions are made based on:

- Severity of the incident
- Previous behaviour record
- Safeguarding considerations
- Proportionality and fairness

Parents/carers will be contacted directly regarding all C6 outcomes either via the school communication system or by phone/personal email.

## **4. Rebuild Provision**

Rebuild is the school's internal intervention provision. It may be used:

- As an alternative to suspension
- As a supportive reset following serious behaviour
- To allow structured reflection and targeted support

Rebuild also serves a safeguarding and support function. Where appropriate, time in Rebuild will include targeted intervention, reflection and reintegration planning to support students in returning successfully to lessons and reducing the likelihood of repeated incidents. Any safeguarding concerns identified during this process will be managed in line with the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.

## **5. Safeguarding and Welfare Considerations**

Before issuing an after-school detention, staff must actively consider and confirm that the sanction is safe and appropriate. This includes checking:

- Safe travel arrangements
- Medical or SEND needs
- Caring responsibilities
- Known safeguarding concerns

Any behaviour or detention that raises a safeguarding concern will be recorded and referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Core Team in line with the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.

The safety and welfare of students remains paramount. Where patterns of behaviour or repeated sanctions indicate a potential underlying need or risk, this will be reviewed with pastoral teams and, where appropriate, escalated in line with safeguarding procedures.

## **6. Failure to Attend Detention**

Failure to attend without reasonable justification will result in:

- Escalation to the next C-Code level where appropriate
- Re-scheduling of the detention
- A period of time in Rebuild

Persistent failure may result in further sanctions in line with the Behaviour Policy. Where failure to attend detention raises concerns about a student's welfare, vulnerability or circumstances, this will be reviewed and addressed in line with safeguarding procedures.

## **7. SEND and Equality Considerations**

In line with the Equality Act 2010, reasonable adjustments will be made for pupils with:

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Education, Health and Care Plans
- Identified mental health needs

Sanctions will always take individual needs into account and will not be discriminatory.

## **8. Recording and Monitoring**

All C-Code incidents and detentions are:

- Logged on the school behaviour system
- Monitored by Heads of Year and Senior Leaders
- Reviewed termly to identify trends and ensure fairness

The school regularly analyses behaviour data to ensure no group is disproportionately affected. The data is also reviewed to identify any safeguarding patterns or emerging concerns, with relevant information shared with safeguarding leads where appropriate.

Where appropriate, students will have opportunities to discuss sanctions with staff to ensure the system is understood as fair and proportionate.

## **9. Monitoring & evaluation arrangements**

- The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team, in consultation with the staff, will undertake systematic monitoring and conduct regular reviews of the detention system in order to make sure that the operation is effective, fair and consistently used by staff
- The Academy Committee will regularly review this policy and associated procedures to ensure its continuing appropriateness and effectiveness.
- The outcome of the monitoring and evaluation will be communicated to all those involved as appropriate

## **10. Roles & responsibilities**

- The Academy Committee will ensure that the detention policy is communicated to students and parents and is regularly reviewed. Governors will support the school in maintaining high standards of behaviour
- The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team will be responsible for the school's policy on detentions and make sure it is being used fairly and consistently
- All staff, including teachers and support staff, will be responsible for ensuring that the policy and procedures are followed consistently and fairly. Support will also be given by the Senior Leadership Team
- Parents and carers will be expected to support the school's detention policy and work with the school to improve behaviour
- Students will be expected to take responsibility for their own behaviour and conform to the requirements of the detention
- The Academy Committee, Headteacher and staff will ensure there is no differential application of the policy and procedures on any grounds in relation to ethnic or national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexuality. They will also ensure that the concerns of students are listened to and appropriately addressed.

## **11. Training**

The Academy Committee will ensure that appropriate high quality training on all aspects of behaviour management, including detentions, is provided to support the implementation of the policy.

## **12. Review of Policy**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body to ensure compliance with guidance from the Department for Education and inspection expectations from Ofsted.

## **13. Links to other policies**

This behaviour policy is linked to the following Shoeburyness High School or SECAT policies:

- Exclusions policy
- Safeguarding & Child Protection policy
- Equality Objectives policy