

Discipline

We seek to promote good relationships between all members of our community. It is one of the stated aims of the school that we should strive to promote international understanding between all races. It is an expectation that all pupils and teachers respect each other and demonstrate open-mindedness with regard to other cultures and differing religious and social practices. Instances of bullying or racism are rare at JIS, but when they occur, they are treated very seriously. No one cultural group is predominant among the student body in any meaningful sense. Although the teachers are generally of Western origin, the expectations of the host community are constantly kept in mind. The idea is that we should celebrate what we all have in common rather than focusing too much on the diversity of our community, interesting as it is. The values by which we live are internationally accepted.

Good discipline at school springs naturally from good relationships. When children are growing up, they naturally make mistakes, overreact and get things out of proportion. Teachers adopt a tolerant attitude to their charges, although occasionally correction is necessary when boundaries have been crossed. When on school journeys to any destination, the spirit of school regulations still applies and a pupil should not expect to take part in a school trip unless he or she is willing to accept that condition.

A range of sanctions exist at the school and these are used sparingly, as need arises. Detentions are used for a variety of offenses, including persistent lateness, failure to complete homework tasks on time, disruptive behaviour, rudeness and a lack of respect for others. A pupil may be suspended for a more serious matter, such as bullying or theft or persistent classroom disruption. Parents will always be telephoned before a child is suspended.

The ultimate sanction is exclusion and is rarely used. A child involved in drug dealing can expect to be expelled (see drugs policy) as can a child who persistently refuses to obey school rules, jeopardizing his own welfare and that of others. Theft is viewed most seriously as it undermines trust within the community.

Although JIS is a liberal school, in which much trust is placed in pupils to conduct themselves in a considerate manner, everyone must understand that rules are present for a purpose, namely to protect the welfare and happiness of all.

April 2007