

## **Our Responsible Thinking Philosophy**

Students have the right to learn and teachers have the right to teach in safety.

No one has the right to disrupt, to prevent other students from learning or to violate the rights of others.

### **What is RTP?**

RTP is a process by which students are taught to monitor their own behavior by taking responsibility for what they do.

Rather than telling students what to do they are asked what they are doing in relation to the rules or standards of where they are.

This is our opportunity to teach students how to think on their own and create their own effective plans rather than someone else doing the thinking for them.

RTP is a tool for our students and staff to employ in order to grow and learn in a consistent and safe environment.

Through the use of The Responsible Thinking Process, students will learn how to self-manage their behavior.

### **How it Works**

1. A student disrupts during class time or is being unsafe in the classroom or hallway.
2. The student is asked the first set of questions;
  1. What are you doing?
  2. What are the rules?
  3. What happens when you break the rules?
  4. Is this what you want to happen?
  5. What will happen the next time you disrupt?
3. The student either:
  1. Chooses to respond by correcting the inappropriate behavior and continues in class.
  2. Chooses to continue behavior and is asked the second set of questions.
    1. What are you doing?
    2. What did you say would happen next?
    3. Where do you need to be?
4. If the student is asked the second set of questions they are automatically sent to the Responsible Thinking Classroom.
5. While in the RTC the student is given the opportunity to complete a plan of action to correct the inappropriate behavior. Once a plan has been completed the student is allowed to return to class.
6. If they disrupt again, the questions will be asked one time and they will be sent to RTC.

## Responsible Thinking Process Offenses

(Ask questions – send to Responsible Thinking Classroom after warnings checked on behavior documentation form)

Below are some examples of minor and major offenses where the RTC will be utilized:

### Minor RTC Offenses

- Inappropriate language
- Minor physical contact
- Talking when others are talking
- Talking during independent work time
- Not following directions
- Property misuse
- Electronic violation

### Major RTC Offenses

- Abusive language
- Fighting or physical aggression
- Defiance or disrespect
- Harassment and bullying
- Inappropriate touching or exposing
- Lying and cheating
- Possession of weapons
- Theft
- Vandalism or property damage

### Classification of Offenses

#### **Disruption/Distracton:**

Talking in class  
Walking around the room  
Tapping pencil  
Slamming books on desk  
Shouting out in class

#### **Disrespect:**

Inappropriate language or gestures  
Insubordination, not following a simple direction

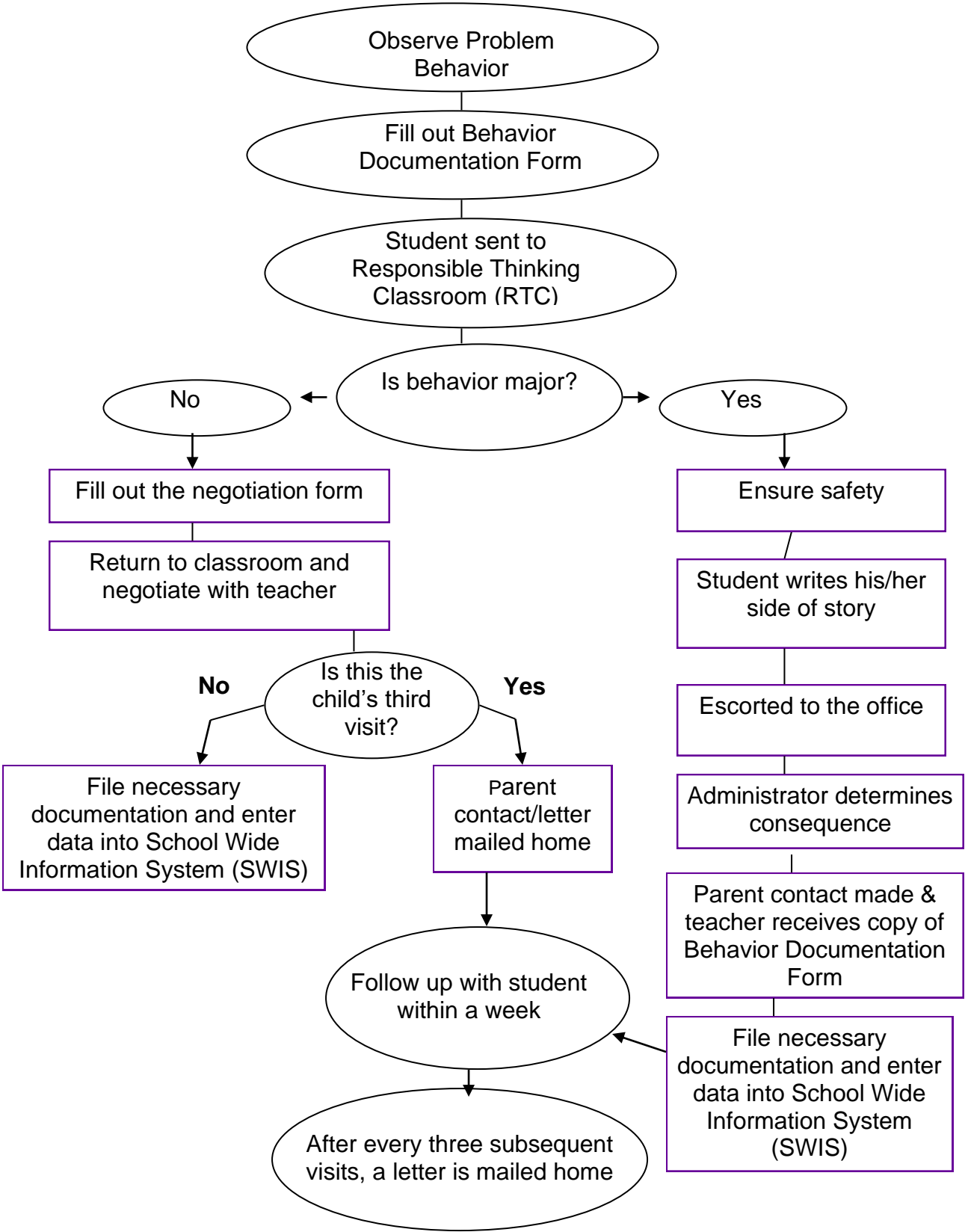
#### **Safety:**

Running in the hallway  
Tipping back in chair  
Improper use of equipment  
Pushing/shoving  
Throwing things

#### **Refuse:**

Refusal to do assigned work or complete an assigned task

# General Procedure for Dealing with Problem Behaviors



Observe Problem Behavior

Fill out Behavior Documentation Form

Student sent to Responsible Thinking Classroom (RTC)

Is behavior major?

No

Fill out the negotiation form

Return to classroom and negotiate with teacher

Is this the child's third visit?

No

File necessary documentation and enter data into School Wide Information System (SWIS)

Yes

Parent contact/letter mailed home

Follow up with student within a week

After every three subsequent visits, a letter is mailed home

Yes

Ensure safety

Student writes his/her side of story

Escorted to the office

Administrator determines consequence

Parent contact made & teacher receives copy of Behavior Documentation Form

File necessary documentation and enter data into School Wide Information System (SWIS)