

# Behaviour Policy Addendum - June 2020

## Introduction

We recognise the unique challenges that present themselves in returning to school, following such a lengthy period of absence. We understand that pupils will need time to settle back into our systems and to establish themselves in a routine again. For many it will feel strange being back in school, for others it will be exciting, and some may feel an increased sense of anxiety or nervousness. For these pupils, there will be additional pastoral care and support available to help them at this time.

## Our Expectations

Our expectations of the highest standard of pupil behaviour have not changed. However, in order to continue to provide a safe learning environment for all pupils and staff during the Covid-19 pandemic, we have needed to make some additions and changes to our routines and behaviour expectations, to ensure that the safety of pupils and staff is taken seriously by all.

This document is an addendum to our existing behaviour policy and should be considered alongside the main policy. This addendum seeks to ensure that all pupils fully understand the importance of keeping themselves, their peers, their families and our staff safe. We believe that pupils respond best in an environment where they understand the rules and where staff are in a position to explain the new routines clearly.

All staff will follow the procedures detailed in our risk assessments to ensure the highest level of safety. We also expect our pupils to adhere to the behaviour expectations outlined below, which are based on government guidance, and we seek parental support in reiterating these important safety messages with their children.

## Social Distancing

We will follow the government guidance on social distancing. All members of our school community will be expected to respect the social distancing measures put in place by the school. Where social distancing areas are marked out in classrooms and around school, these should be followed without exception. This applies at the start and end of the day, breaks and lunchtimes as well as during lesson times.

In classrooms, pupils must follow the instructions from staff at all times, particularly regarding seating instructions, movement around the room and entries and exits to and from the room.

## Unsafe Behaviours

Teachers will explicitly teach the behaviours they want to see and will clarify the new routines that will support this. Pupils will explicitly be told the consequences for behaviour that threatens the safety of others such as malicious or deliberate acts of transmission (e.g. spitting, deliberate coughing without covering mouths and refusal to wash hands).

Any such behaviour which wilfully undermines the safety measures that the school has put in place or which risks staff or pupil safety will not be tolerated. If such incidents occur, they will be treated as serious behavioural incidents and may result in exclusion from school. Examples of such behaviours include:

- Deliberately ignoring the social distancing measures put in place for the protection of all;
- Any incident of spitting on school grounds, including at another pupil or member of staff;
- Deliberately coughing at another pupil or member of staff or pretending to do so;
- Behaviour or language that is intended to cause alarm or distress to staff or pupils about the current situation.

Truancy, or walking away from a member of staff, is considered potentially dangerous behaviour and will be sanctioned as such.

### **Movement around School**

All adults and pupils will be expected to move around the school site following specified instructions, including socially distanced queuing and not entering areas which are out of bounds.

### **Social Areas and Social Times**

Pupils will always receive clear instructions on where they may and may not go and when. Pupils will be expected to respect these boundaries at all times and use only their own designated areas during their designated social times.

### **Behaviour and Home Learning**

Pupils who are unable to return to school continue to be subject to the behaviour expectations outlined in our Behaviour Policy. Any online communication should be polite and respectful to all. Inappropriate communication may receive a warning or in extreme cases a ban from the site.

Online bullying will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in line with our Anti Bullying and Behaviour Policies.

### **Conclusion**

We very much want our pupils' return to school to be a positive experience and to reassure pupils, staff and parents that we are doing everything in our power to make that return as safe as possible for all. Staff are keen to re-engage with pupils and to help them move forward beyond this difficult time. Praise and positivity are crucial and will continue to underpin all aspects of behaviour management moving forwards but clearly safety is at the forefront of everyone's minds at this time more than ever and it is imperative that our approach to behaviour continues to prioritise this.