

Behaviour Policy – September 2020 Covid-19 Addendum

In the light of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is necessary for the school to make adjustments to our Behaviour Policy for the safety of all our pupils and staff.

Rewards

The Reach for the Stars System will continue to be used. Teachers and Teaching Assistants welcome opportunities to praise individuals for good work, attitude or good behaviour, and show recognition, if these are brought to their attention. Above all praise and encouragement should be used as much as possible.

Walking through school to show their work to the Head Teacher or other adult for acknowledgement and praise during this time will not be permitted.

Celebration Assemblies have had to be suspended and therefore we are unable to publicly praise children in the usual way.

Sanctions

Sanctions as outlined in our Behaviour Policy remain in place. However, slight changes are necessary. Time out is no longer an option due to staff capacity and safety measures in place for Covid-19.

WE DO NOT TOLERATE DELIBERATE PHYSICAL OR VERBAL VIOLENCE OR AGGRESSION TOWARDS PUPILS OR ADULTS AND THIS WILL RESULT IN APPLICATION OF THE EXCLUSION PROCEDURES.

Exclusion

This sanction is only used in very serious circumstances, where the education or well-being of children at the school is at risk due to the behaviour of a pupil or group of pupils. In the current context it may be used if a child's behaviour is considered high risk, for example, refusing to adhere to safety measures, such as, hand washing, social distancing, remaining in their learning group or deliberate behaviours that put themselves or others at risk, such as spitting or deliberately coughing at people.

Appropriate touch

Whilst the school usually endorses a positive touch approach, in light of the COVID-19 situation this will not be encouraged. This does not sit comfortably as we are aware that to deny a child a physical reassurance is against the needs of the child and their healthy emotional development. However, we recognise that touch points are a key way for the virus to be transmitted.

Restraint

There can be times when a pupil's behaviour requires staff physical support to ensure the pupils' own safety, the safety of other pupils and staff, or that property is not seriously damaged. This can require the use of physical interventions. We do have a physical restraint policy but the current climate makes this incredibly difficult to implement.

Where a child may need very close contact it is imperative that parents know that the use of PPE where appropriate WILL, if practical and reasonable to do so, be used to help avoid cross contamination or any potential virus spread.

Pupils Working from Home

There may be times when home learning is necessary, e.g. a learning group having to isolate or local/national lockdown. If interacting with other pupils or staff online, pupils should always be kind and respectful to each other and respectful and obedient to staff, remembering at all times that that staff are not 'friends' with, or peers to, pupils.

Pupils should never attempt to contact staff via social media or make comments about staff on social media platforms. Any inappropriate comments to staff online, via email, or any other platform will

be taken very seriously and could result in a referral to the police. This is also the case of for any online bullying towards other pupils or peer-on-peer abuse that is disclosed to the school during this time.