

Behaviour Policy Appendix COVID-19

This policy was updated January 2021

Appendix

Amendments to the Behaviour Policy during Covid19

All staff at St Mary's Primary School understand the difficulties and various considerations that stem from dealing with Covid19 for our families and children. With the new guidelines provided to us by the Department for Education in mind, we are making some temporary amendments to our Behaviour Policy that aim to reflect any new expectations and routines that are necessary to reduce risk in our setting. These amendments aim to ensure continued high expectations of behaviour whilst ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all staff and children.

Attendance

During school closures, Local Authorities and education settings have not been required to complete their usual day-to-day attendance processes to follow up on non-attendance. We have, however, followed up on the non-attendance of any child who has been booked into our interim childcare provision.

From June 1st, the guidance states that we are to complete full registers for children, however, due to the current circumstances, the Government have stipulated that: 'Parents will not be fined for non-attendance at this time, and schools and colleges will not be held to account for attendance levels'. Please be reminded: *no one with symptoms should attend a setting for any reason.*

Safeguarding

- Our ongoing support for children and families includes making regular telephone calls to identified families.
- Meetings with professionals continue to take place remotely and virtually. Key professionals are informed as necessary e.g. where non-attendance issues arise, as per Government guidance.
- Records are being kept up-to-date
- Referrals to Family Support Worker and other support services continue to be made as and when appropriate.

Uniform

From June 1st, children are expected to attend in uniform and for the children to have a clean clothes each day. Staff are expected to follow the dress code outlined in the Staff Handbook if possible but smart casual is acceptable. If parents/carers are facing difficulties, please speak to a member of staff who will offer support.

Expectations

Our expectations of demonstrating our school values have not changed. We will, however, as staff, and children, share the highest levels of patience and calm. We appreciate that our routines have changed significantly since the last time we were in school together. The way that our new school routines are set out are different: staggered start and end times, staggered playtimes, and different timetables than the ones we were previously used to. All of these changes should enable our expectations of courtesy and kindness to remain high. We will show flexibility with pupils who may find getting into the new routines difficult, but we will (as always) expect to see progress and effort from all of our children, no matter what their starting point, or which adults they are working with. Any persistent failures to meet expectations will be referred to a member of the Senior Leadership Team and evaluation of risk assessments will take place in discussion with parents/carers (see 'consequences' section below).

Behaviour Principles (from guidance provided by the Department for Education)

- Children and parents will need to follow the new staggered start and end times for the school day.
- Children will be expected to wash their hands repeatedly for at least 20 seconds each time, directed by school staff.
- Children will need to follow age-related expectations when socialising with their peers.

- Children and adults (including parents) will be required to move around the school site following specific instructions (including, but not limited to, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, distanced queuing etc.).
- All children and staff will adhere to expectations around sneezing, coughing, tissues, touching faces etc.
- Tell an adult if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus.
- Children and staff will be limited in contact with their peers; no congregation in shared spaces will be permitted.
- Where pupils are learning at home, they should use the resources provided on the Project Learning section of our school website.

Consequences

All incidents will be dealt with and the children helped to understand the consequences of their actions to help support in a stepped approach. However, if there are persistent serious incidents where a child becomes unsafe to themselves – another child or an adult, informing parents of misbehaviour such as spitting and / or biting it may mean due to the increased risk of COVID19 the child may not be able to remain in school safely following an updated risk assessment. Where possible the child will receive 2 warnings and parents will be informed of the seriousness of these warning.

School Site

A comprehensive risk assessment has been completed and will be continually evaluated. As part of this risk assessment, all children and adults on site must follow the agreed approaches to where they are permitted to physically be on site. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Children and teaching staff remaining in the room allocated to their group/‘bubble’ only.
- Children will not be able to be in corridors without permission from an adult.
- When outside, including at breaks and lunchtimes, pupils will remain in the designated area, with the other pupils and staff in their group/‘bubble’.
- Communal staff area access will be restricted.

Failure of children to remain in their allocated areas will result in a review of risk assessment and may mean that they are unable to be on site. This will be communicated with parents/carers by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

All children, staff and parents/carers must adhere to social distancing guidelines and rules both on and off site.

Positive Handling

At St Mary's Primary School, use of positive handling has always been as an absolute last resort. During this time, however, to use such a strategy would pose increased risk to both children and staff. As part of our protective measures, risk assessments relating to this will be ongoing and reviewed on an individual basis, with parents/carers involved as part of the process. If a child requires physical intervention, parents/carers will be contacted immediately and, as with all risks, suitable (and increased) measures will need to be put in place.