



St. Bede's Catholic Infant School COVID-19 Addendum to Behaviour Policy

Agreed by Staff

Date 5th August 2020

Signed Chair of Governors: Ms S Howard Date 5th August 2020

Adapted from Halton Borough Council Model Policy

Rationale

DfE Guidance issued in May schools asked schools to amend their behaviour policies in order to cover elements of the return to school after COVID-19 that may require an alteration to routines, practice and policy. It is envisioned that these amendments will remain in school policies for as long as required for social-distancing purposes.

School Principles

At St. Bede's Catholic Infant School we aim to maintain a secure, caring and stimulating environment in which children are encouraged to have respect for themselves and each other.

- The school community promotes values including honesty, fairness and respect for truth and justice, within a caring and nurturing Christian environment
- All members of the school community have a right to feel safe
- All members of the school community have a right to respect
- All members of the school community have a right to learn
- All pupils, staff and visitors are free from any form of discrimination
- Staff and volunteers set an excellent example to pupils at all times
- Rewards, sanctions and reasonable force are used consistently by staff, in line with the behaviour policy
- The behaviour policy is understood by staff and pupils (at an age appropriate level)
- The exclusions policy explains that exclusions will only be used as a last resort, and outlines the processes involved in permanent and fixed-term exclusions
- Pupils are helped to take responsibility for their actions
- Families are involved in behaviour incidents to foster good relationships between the school and pupils' home life

Whilst expectations in our Behaviour Policy remain pertinent, it is necessary, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, to make some adjustments for the safety of all pupils and staff. This addendum is to be used in conjunction with, and read alongside all relevant policies and procedures including, the Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, E-Safety Policy and Safeguarding. These adjustments are set out below and are relevant to the age and stage of development of our children and are responsive to DfE Guidance.

Keeping Safe in School Rules from September

These new rules to support the children around school will be displayed and reinforced regularly throughout the day. The rules have also been shared with the families of the children who are returning to school in September.

- Don't get too close or touch each other when in class and around the school where possible including when lining up and playing.
- Always try to keep apart from the adults.
- Wash your hands for 20 seconds using soap and water regularly.
- Listen carefully to all of the instructions from the adults.
- Cover your mouth when you are coughing. Cough into your elbow.
- Catch it, bin it, kill it! Use a tissue and throw it in the bin. Wash your hands!
- Keep your things separate from other peoples. Only use your own equipment.

We are always working hard to have kind hands, kind feet and kind words and because we are so kind we are also the best at sharing with each other.

For now we also need to be kind to each other by NOT sharing and NOT going to each other to hug and play.

We MUST NOT get too close to the adults unless we need their help.

We MUST keep our things to ourselves.

We cannot bring in our own things in from home and we MUST NOT have things that we do not need.

We MUST NOT touch lots of things in our class or in the corridors.

We MUST only use the things that we are given by the adults.

We MUST wash our hands regularly.

We MUST follow the instructions.

Due to the age of our children the emphasis will be on communication and teaching of new routines and ways of working and regular reinforcement and repetition to support the embedding of new practices and encourage children to adopt them wholeheartedly.

A parent information document detailing expectations and school organisation, including the 'Keeping Safe in School' rules for return in September has been shared with all of our families via the school website and class e-mails.

Due to the age of the children there will be regular reinforcement of the 'Keeping Safe in School Rules'.

Due to the age of our children their behaviour will need to be supported and supervised very specifically by the actions of Parents and School Staff.

Arrivals, Departure and Moving around School

- Parents are informed of staggered arrival and departure times for children and are expected to adhere to these.
- Parents have been provided with designated entrance and exit routes for their children.
- Children are expected to stay with their parent upon arrival at and departure from school.
- Children are expected to keep a space between each other and 2m distance from adults where possible in class, as they move around school, at playtimes and when lining up.
- Children will follow the one way route as signposted along corridors.
- Timetabling of outside areas, staggered playtimes/lunchtimes will further minimise the amount of adults and children moving around at one time, keeping corridors clearer and play areas for class groups minimising risk.

Handwashing and Hygiene

- Children will be expected to follow all handwashing and hygiene routines while in school.
- Children will wash their hands before leaving home, on arrival at school, before and after eating and at regular intervals during the school day and after using the toilet.
- Children will receive regular reminders to wash their hands using soap and water.
- Hand washing posters have been displayed in the toilets, in classrooms and around school.
- Sanitising gel is available for adults only and is kept out of reach of children.
- The children will be expected to follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' slogan and dispose of used tissues in the specific 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' bins.
- Children will be regularly reminded to try to not touch their face – mouth, nose and eyes.
- Children must have responsibility for their own equipment and not share this with other children.

Clear rules about coughing or spitting at or towards any other person

Due to the age of the children we would not expect this to be malicious. However, should this happen we would put into place appropriate sanctions and speak to parents promptly.

Tell an adult if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus

- Children will be reminded to tell an adult if they are feeling unwell.

- Any child displaying Covid-19 symptoms will be supervised by a member of staff prior to collection by their parent/carer.

Rules about sharing any equipment or other items including drinking bottles

- Children will be reminded not to share their equipment or water bottles with others.
- Book bags should be brought in but should only contain reading books, reading diaries and home school books.

Use of toilets

- One child at a time to attend toilets at any one time wherever possible. Staff will supervise the younger children on their way to the toilets and ensure that they have thoroughly washed their hands.

Remote Education

- Due to the age of the children correspondence is between school staff and parents via class e-mails. This will include regularly praise and affirmation for work undertaken and efforts made.
- A Remote Education Policy has been produced and posted on the website and cross referenced to e-safety and Acceptable Use policies. Parents have been informed that our Remote Education Lead is Miss Parle.

Rewards and sanctions

The ethos of the school promotes the use of positive reinforcement, specific praise and the use of rewards (both individually and whole group). The children respond best to this, feeling valued and affirmed.

Rewards

- Teachers will be provided with the option of a smiley face reward chart that can be used for individual children but completed by the teacher or can adapt existing reward systems ensuring there is no cross contamination.
- We will continue to have a 'Learner of the Week' award and the recipient will receive copy of a certificate via school email to parents.

Sanctions

If a child's behaviour is felt to be of high risk at this time, including for example, refusing to adhere to safety measures and rules to keep us safe or involve deliberate behaviours that put themselves or others at risk such as spitting or deliberately coughing at people the following sanctions and disciplinary procedures could be used:

- Conversation with the child, which could include a verbal warning, moving seats if logistically possible and other behaviour management strategies in line with our current Behaviour Policy that are conducive to safe practices at this time.
- Once all appropriate behaviour management strategies have been exhausted, contact should be made with the pupil's parent/carer.
- The current DfE statutory guidance relating to the COVID-19 outbreak (updated 29 May 2020). See 'The School Discipline (England) (Coronavirus) (Pupil Exclusion and Reviews) (Amendment) Regulations 2020' [legislation.gov.uk](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) will be employed around exclusions.

Use of Reasonable Force

Our Behaviour Policy defines the use of reasonable force and identifies times when other options have been exhausted that it may be necessary to intervene.

The majority of our staff have been trained in Team Teach techniques to restrain pupils who are at risk to themselves or others. At this time however, with the requirement to socially distance and risk to health. staff will continue to apply other strategies as far as possible.

If there is no other option than to restrain the child for their own or others' safety a member of staff will only restrain once they are wearing suitable PPE.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

Please refer to the SEND section of the Behaviour Policy.

We recognise that some SEND children may be particularly vulnerable at this time.

In addition we acknowledge that children will have had a range of different experiences during Lockdown. These may have an impact on how they behave on their return to school and on their emotional health and well-being.

Some children may experience frustration from missing friends and family whilst others very sadly may have suffered bereavement, loss or trauma.

We will place an emphasis on assessing and identifying the children's needs on return to school. Appropriate strategies, resources and interventions will be used to support the children's safe and happy return. These will include a high focus on supporting behaviour and emotional health and well-being.

When necessary we will work closely with external support including educational psychologists and the HBC Behaviour Support Service

This addendum should be read in conjunction with our existing Behaviour Policy and Return to School Action Plan and Risk Assessment. This Policy is supported by other policies and guidance which safeguard and promote the welfare of children in our school. Work completed as part of our Rights Respecting School activities also supports this policy.