

St Michael's CE Primary School

COVID-19 Behaviour Policy Addendum June 2020

Following the government guidance relating to pupils phased return to school due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have written this addendum to the behaviour policy to ensure all stakeholders are aware of expectations as we enter this next phase. In light of the pandemic, expectations of behaviour will need to change in order to, as best we can, ensure the safety of the school community.

The school has carried out a detailed risk assessment for the children's return and parents have been notified of expectations and changes to routines, via the parent's code of conduct, in preparation for the return of pupils.

We recognise that the behaviour of the school community on return, is directly linked to individuals understanding of the health issues and concerns related to the pandemic. Therefore, the school will prioritise the communication of the government's messages concerning reasonable precautions such as social distancing and hand washing to all members of the school community. Children will have clear communication regarding non-negotiables of accepted behaviour and consequences for non-compliance. The addendum will be shared with children on their return and then as a reminder the main elements will be shared daily as a class charter.

The school will continue to follow the behaviour policy, but this addendum will address concerns directly linked with the pandemic. The following amendments are therefore added to the behaviour policy.

Daily Routines and Classroom Behaviour

- Rewards will be given in the form of class dojos for children learning remotely and in school.
- Pupils must stay with their designated group (bubble) for lesson and break times. Failure to do so will result in the pupil being internally isolated for a period of time by a member of SMT (who will keep their 2 meter distance).
- If non-compliance is an ongoing concern, parents will be consulted and additional sanctions put in place.
- Repeats of this behaviour after internal isolation will result in an external exclusion.
- Pupils requiring help to understand the changes will have a nominated member of the SMT to discuss their concerns.
- Pupils not adhering to the expectations of moving around the building, after reminders to comply, will be internally isolated for a period of time if behaviour persists.
- If pupils do not follow recommendations, they may be internally isolated until they have a better understanding of the risk they impose on others.
- Pupils not following guidelines concerning the sharing of equipment/water bottles will be internally isolated for a period of time.

Break and Lunch time

- Pupils may play with children from their designated class group (bubble) and are not permitted to swap groups.
- Pupils are only to play in the area assigned by the class adult.
- Continual non-compliance may result in pupils being separated from their peers for a period of time and internally isolated.

Use of Toilets

- If pupils are found congregating in toilet areas, they will be warned and if continual disregard is shown then pupils will be separated from their peers for a period of time.

Actions towards others

- Pupils should not seek to deliberately cause distress to others by saying things such as, 'I have the coronavirus' or 'my dad/mum has the coronavirus', or for example make a statement that the other child has the virus, or has a 'corona touch'.
- Pupils must not cough or spit at or towards another person. Any cough or sneeze must be contained in their elbow and if not, it will be seen as a deliberate attempt to scare others. We will remind children, but will take it very seriously if they continue to disobey the 'catch it, kill it, bin it rule'.

Consequences

- Any child found to be endangering others with their behaviour or taunting others with their words will result in them being removed from their bubble group and internally isolated for a period of time by a member of SMT (keeping their 2m distance).
- A red card will be given and parents informed immediately.
- If on investigation a child is found to have deliberately put the health and wellbeing of others at risk with their behaviour, it will be dealt with the upmost seriousness and may result in internal/fixed term exclusion.

We appreciate that some of the consequences may seem harsh, primarily in having isolation and time with the SMT, but we as a school community must seek to stop these actions as soon as they arise. These are troubling times and in order to maintain the harmonious and safe working environment which we endeavour to create at school, our addendum is established with the aim to teach the children about the effects that their speech and actions may have on others, in particular relating to COVID-19.

Please rest assured that this is an addendum to our existing behaviour policy, which is still in place and as such we will continue to follow our restorative justice approach.