



STAMFORD ST GILBERT'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

COVID-19 BEHAVIOUR POLICY ADDENDUM

JUNE 2020

This is an addendum to the school's current behaviour policy and does not replace the school's main policy. It will remain in place temporarily in response to the current Covid- 19 pandemic. The addendum may be amended on receiving any further guidance from the Department for Education or local authority.

Context

From 1st June 2020, the government announced the wider opening of schools to EYFS, Y1 and Y6 pupils as well as pupils who are vulnerable or whose parents are key workers.

In light of the need for children to behave differently when they return to school, and any new systems needing to be put in place to support their return, we have developed some changes to our policy following guidance from the government which covers:

- following any altered routines for arrival or departure
- following school instructions on hygiene, such as handwashing and sanitising
- following instructions on who pupils can socialise with at school
- moving around the school as per specific instructions (for example, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, queuing)
- expectations about sneezing, coughing, tissues and disposal ('catch it, bin it, kill it') and avoiding touching your mouth, nose and eyes with hands
- tell an adult if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus
- rules about sharing any equipment or other items including drinking bottles
- amended expectations about breaks or play times, including where children may or may not play
- use of toilets
- clear rules about coughing or spitting at or towards any other person
- clear rules for pupils at home about conduct in relation to remote education
- rewards and sanction system where appropriate
- we should also identify any reasonable adjustments that need to be made for pupils with more challenging behaviour.

Our aim is to ensure we maintain our secure, caring and stimulating environment. Whilst expectations in our Behaviour policy remain pertinent, it is necessary in the current climate to make some adjustments for the safety and well-being of all staff, pupils and community.

Arrivals, Departures and Moving round the school.

Routines for arrival and departure have changed with a staggered format now in place. All parents are informed of their arrival and collection time.

One parent must collect and drop off.

- Children will enter school through the car park entrance and 2m socially distance on the school field. Once they have been collected, parents must leave the school grounds and not congregate to talk.
- At their designated home time, children will leave the building from their designated exit. They will be led out by their member of staff and be collected by their parent.
- Movement around the school will be limited. When the children leave their pod classroom to go outside for break, lunch or outdoor learning, they will ensure they stay 2m apart from their peers and adults.
- Children will follow an adult from their pod on their designated route.
- Children will be expected to tell a member of staff if they are unwell and are exhibiting signs of Coronavirus by raising their hand.
- Children must have a responsibility for their own equipment e.g. water bottles and ensure that these are not shared with other pupils.

Hand washing and Hygiene

Children will be expected to follow all hand washing and hygiene routines while in school.

Children will wash hands /use antibacterial gel before entering school, after returning from the outside, before and after eating and at regular intervals during the day. We ask children to follow the 'Use it, bin

it', routine when in school.

If they need to cough or sneeze, they should use a tissue or crook of their arm.

Children will be reminded not to touch their face, mouth, nose or eyes while at school.

Should a child refuse to follow these routines, disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used (see below).

Social Distancing

Children will be expected to socially distance from their peers and adults in school and on the playground/field at all times.

Pupils in EYFS, Y1 and Y6 will have their own table with chairs spaced 2m apart.

When children enter their pod, they will be expected to go straight to their table and nowhere else in the room.

Children will put their hand up if they need an adult's support, they will not get out of their seats unless permitted. Teachers will ensure that pupils, wherever possible, adhere to social distancing measures.

Where older pupils are not complying, the usual disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used (see below).

We understand socially distancing may be more difficult for younger children, they will be encouraged wherever possible to keep a distance from peers and adults, however, we understand this may not always be possible which is recognised by government guidelines.

Toilets

Each pod will use their closest toilets.

- Signs will be on the door indicating 'Free' and 'Busy'
- Children will be supervised and will use the toilets one at a time (this may not always be possible with reception children).
- When a child has finished in the toilet they must wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap and warm water or 'Happy Birthday x2.

Break times

Children will have a designated place to play during break times supervised by a member of staff.

Children will be expected to remain socially distant from both peers and adults during play and break times.

Children must stay in their designated area at all times.

All resources will be cleaned at the end of the day

Rewards

Children will continue to receive praise and stickers as rewards. This will be ever more important at this time as children manage great change. All staff will seek every opportunity to praise all children 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.

Behaviour in school

If a child's behaviour is deemed high risk, for example, refusing to adhere to safety measures, such as, hand washing, social distancing, remaining in their pods or 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(s) with pupil(s) which could include a verbal warning, moving seats if logistically possible

and other behaviour management strategies in line with our current behaviour policy.

- Contact will be made with pupil's parent/carer.

Should behaviour raise safeguarding concerns then a referral will be made to Children's services.

- If the health and safety of other pupils and staff members are put at risk by the pupils not adhering to social distancing measures, then the parent/carer will be expected to collect the pupil and a fixed term exclusion will be applied in line with Exclusion guidance.

Should a pupil's behaviour require positive handling other than guiding, then a risk assessment will be completed to decide if that pupil can remain in school. Should the school not be able to mitigate the risks, then following discussion with parents, external advice/support will be sought which may involve the implementation of the exclusion process.

If a pupil deliberately coughs at, spits at or hugs another child or adult, the child will be removed from their pod and sat outside the Heads office. The school will contact the parents/carers to discuss next steps but once again this may involve the exclusion process if other measures or adjustments are not successful.

Pastoral Care

We acknowledge that children will have had a range of different experiences during the lockdown period which may have an impact on their behaviour presentation upon return to school. Some may present with frustration as a result of being isolated from friends or having missed a significant event or experience; e.g. exams, school trip, etc. Others may have experienced bereavement or loss or another, real or perceived, traumatic episode. For many, the process of re-engagement with learning and the school community, under unusual circumstances, may require some additional input and encouragement.

As a result of these varied experiences children may present with behaviour that is not usual, this may include;

- Anxiety; lack of confidence
- Challenging behaviour; fight or flight response
- Anger; shouting, crying
- Hyperactivity and difficulties maintaining attention

For some children, including those with safeguarding concerns, attachment concerns or SEN, and especially those with autism, the change in routines and lack of familiarity will require additional adjustment.

We recognise that behaviour could be a sign that for some individual children there is an unfulfilled need and that the behaviour is communicating that there is a problem. We will undertake an individual risk assessment for the child and use *reasonable endeavours* to make the necessary adjustments to reduce the stimulus that may be triggering the challenging response.

Children with SEN are recognised as being particularly vulnerable and therefore have an urgent need to be re-integrated back into school as soon as reasonably possible. School will work closely with parents to implement supportive strategies that will inform an appropriate response. If necessary school will seek external support from other agencies such as Educational Psychologists or Early Help.

Pupil's working from home.

St. Gilbert's will ensure that Home Learning is provided for year groups not in school. The school will also ensure that they act upon any concerns regarding the vulnerability of a pupil at home or safeguarding issues.

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 Seesaw, or any other platform will be taken very seriously. 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.

(Please refer to our safeguarding policy)