

St John Evangelist Catholic Primary School
COVID-19 - BEHAVIOUR POLICY ADDENDUM 2020



Mission Statement: To love, to learn with God in our hearts

The principles as set out in St John Evangelist Catholic Primary School Behaviour Policy remain and should continue to be followed. This addendum should not be used as a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with the existing policy. It sets out the expectations of St John Evangelist Primary School in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the need for children to behave differently when they return to school. It describes the new systems in place and how pupils will be supported to adhere to them.

This addendum follows the advice and guidelines provided by the DFE. It should be read in conjunction with our Safeguarding Policy and Health and Safety Policy.

Rewards / Sanctions: The safety of everyone at school is paramount. Rewards and sanctions will be used to help children follow the additional rules. If the Headteacher feels that the behaviour of a pupil is compromising this safety during the Covid-19 opening of schools, then the child will be isolated from their 'bubble'.

St John Evangelist Primary School children must adhere to these additional rules as laid out in the parent letter and shared with pupils on arrival, to support the safety of everyone attending our school, this includes:

- 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 (avoiding leaving the classroom or outside area unless supervised by an adult, using classroom exterior doors, only using allocated toilets, keep away from out of bounds areas, queuing)
- following our expectations about sneezing, coughing, tissues and disposal ('catch it, bin it, kill it') and avoiding touching your mouth, nose and eyes with hands
- telling an adult if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus
- not sharing any equipment or other items including stationary and drinking bottles
- following amended expectations about breaktimes (no shared resources), sticking to designated zones in playground/outside space, table seating in classroom.
- using designated toilets – washing hands before entering and exiting the toilets
- NO coughing or spitting at or towards any other person
- following e-safety guidance in relation to remote education
- rewards and sanction system where appropriate

All pupils will be supported in the following ways:

- Throughout the school there will be signs/posters/visual prompts to remind pupils and staff of the new safety measures in place that should be followed.
- All adults will explain new routines sensitively and help pupils to feel safe and reassured by the rules in place.
- The new routines and expectations will be explained and repeated by the pupils' teacher/support assistant every day and throughout the day. This will reassure all pupils and particularly the most anxious.
- All adults will explain hygiene rules sensitively every day and provide reminders throughout the day.
- Whilst new expectations are established, we will focus on routines, safety and well-being rather than academic challenge.
- An age appropriate strategy for pupils to share their concerns e.g. healthy minds activities, will be available in every group so that pupils' concerns can be heard and responded to every day.
- School staff will pay particular regard to families and pupils who are classified as clinically vulnerable so that appropriate additional support is put in place to reduce anxiety as appropriate to the circumstance.
- All our usual systems for affirming our pupils' good behaviours will continue, with a particular focus on 'Respectful' and 'Safe' behaviours
- For pupils who are not managing for any reason to follow our school expectations we will follow the process outlined in our original behaviour policy and if specific to Covid-19 rules as detailed above under the 'Rewards and Sanctions' bullet point.
- If, despite all appropriate support and guidance, a pupil repeatedly breaks our current safety rules, the Headteacher may, as a last resort, consider alternative arrangements or exclude a pupil either for a fixed period or permanently.

Support for pupils who have additional or special educational needs:

- Pupils will have their individual support plan and (if applicable) risk assessment reviewed in light of the new circumstances.
- If there are concerns that appropriate support is not possible during this period, despite our best endeavours, a discussion will be had with parents (and relevant external professionals) to discuss next steps and what additional adaptations may be possible to ensure the pupil can manage his/her behaviour safely.

Physical Intervention:

There may be times when a pupil's behaviour requires staff to use physical intervention to ensure the pupils' own safety or the safety of other pupils and staff

St John Evangelist Primary School will be guided by the following principles in these circumstances:

- Given the current pandemic, staff will also need to consider the possible risk of infection if they physically intervene, contrasted with the possible risks of infection should they not intervene.
- Any decisions made should be in accordance with Public Health and Government guidelines on Covid-19.
- Advice remains firmly focused on restraint reduction. The emphasis is on de-escalation, reducing triggers, and early interventions to manage risk.
- When deciding to use restrictive interventions, any such restriction must be a last resort, reasonable, and proportionate action.
- Staff need to ensure their decisions consider the risks of doing something contrasted with the risks of doing nothing.
- Schools should continue to explore non-restrictive alternatives that maximise safety and minimise harm at the point of risk behaviour.
- At the heart of all decisions is our desire to maintain the Care, Welfare, Safety and Security of everyone, staff as well as pupils.