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Behaviour Policy COVID-19 Addendum

Saint Mary's normal behaviour policy will apply during the Covid-19 pandemic. In accordance with government guidance, the following annex to the behaviour policy will also be applied:

Arrivals, Departures and Moving round the school.

Children will enter school through their designated entrance at the agreed time. Children will enter keeping a 2m distance from any other individual as outlined in the documents sent to parents/carers. There will be markers on the floors to support children with social distancing.

At their designated home time, children will leave the building from their designated exit. They will leave one at a time when their parent has come to collect them, again keeping their distance using the markers on the floors as a guide.

Movement around school will be limited. When the children leave their bubble classroom to go outside for break, lunch or outdoor learning, they will follow the markers on the floor to ensure they stay 2m from peers and adults.

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 or use antibacterial gel on entering school, after returning from the outside, before and after eating and at regular intervals during the day.

We ask children to follow the catch it, bin it, kill it, mantra 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.

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 will sit in rows in class, facing the front. When children enter their classroom, 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.

Staff will ensure that pupils, where ever possible, adhere to social distancing measures. Where older pupils are not complying, the disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used.

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.

Toilets

Each bubble will understand which toilets to use. Children will be supervised and encouraged to use the toilets so there are only 2 people in the toilets at any one time (this may not always be possible with EYFS children). When a child has finished in the toilet they must wash their hands following the hygiene procedures which will be explained to children.

Break times

Children will have a designated place to play during break times. 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.

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 bubble 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.
- Once all appropriate behaviour management strategies have been exhausted, contact should be made with pupil's parent/carer.
- 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.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

School acknowledges 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. 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 attachment concerns or SEND, and especially those with autism, the change in routines and lack of familiarity will require additional adjustment.

School recognises 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. The school will undertake an individual risk assessment for the child and use reasonable endeavours to make necessary adjustments to reduce the stimulus that may be triggering the challenging response.

Children with SEND 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.

Pupils working from home.

If interacting with other pupils or staff online, students should always be kind and respectful to each other and respectful and obedient to staff, remembering at all times that the staff are not 'friends' with, or peers to, pupils.

Students should never attempt to contact staff via social media or make comments about staff on social media platforms. Any inappropriate comments to staff online will be taken very seriously and will be dealt with by the school. 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.