



West Walker Primary School

Behaviour Policy and Social Distancing Addendum

Whilst we are working in exceptional times our first priority, as always, is to keep children safe. Therefore, in accordance with government guidelines, we are implementing a clear approach to social distancing in a number of important areas.

Government guidance does not advise that social distancing is essential at all times in school, but it is one of a range of measures that schools are taking to keep children safe. This means:

In some year groups:

- *staggering start and end times*
- *staggering break times*
- *keeping apart from others when in the playground or doing any physical exercise*
- *visiting designated toilets depending on our bubble system*
- *ensuring everyone queues and eats further apart than normal where possible*
- *putting guidelines on entry into school*
- *children will be in small groups of a maximum of 16*
- *encouraging good hygiene and extra hand washing*
- *avoiding unnecessary staff gatherings*

In Years 2-6:

- *sitting children at desks which have some space between them, where possible*
- *creating individual packs of resources, e.g. pencils and books*
- *utilising outdoor space where possible for educational activities*

In Year 1 and EYFS:

- *creating large spaces for the children to move around in*
- *selecting resources carefully i.e. those that can easily be washed/cleaned*

In line with this approach, we expect pupils as well as adults to follow these expectations which we have incorporated within our 'school rules' as explained in this policy.

We recognise that this will be very new and could be challenging in some situations, particularly for younger pupils, where staff will implement social distancing measures as far as they are practicably able, whilst ensuring children are kept safe and well cared for.

Similarly, there may be exceptional situations with pupils where social distancing is superseded by our duty of care towards them (such as if a child seriously hurts themselves). In these situations, the HT will be called with PPE and staff will again take all possible precautions, whilst ensuring that these pupils remain safe and are well cared for.

In all other circumstances, the expectation for social distancing and safe behaviour is now an important part of our behaviour policy. This is intended to ensure that pupils can learn and thrive in a positive, orderly and safe environment. If we anticipate a child might struggle when they return to school we will complete a risk assessment to ensure barriers are removed for the child. If we did not anticipate a child will struggle but on their return to school they do struggle a risk assessment will be completed.

This policy should be applied proportionately for younger pupils to encourage positive and safe behaviour rather than to apply sanctions for accidental lapses. For older pupils, there may be situations where they are deliberately breaching expectations for social distancing and safe behaviour, and it is important that staff respond to this consistently.

We recognise that to begin with these expectations will be very unfamiliar and so accidental or momentary lapses of social distancing will be dealt with as such. Pupils will be reminded of the expectation and expected to amend their behaviour immediately.

However, if there are instances where pupils deliberately and repeatedly break this rule then this will be considered a clear breach of the behaviour policy.

This will be dealt with seriously and in line with any other breach of the behaviour policy and in accordance with the approaches outlined in full within this policy.

If the behaviour is unmanageable then we will no longer be able to offer that child a place in school whilst social distancing measures need to be in place.

The following are now added to the consequences used in school:

Action	Consequence
Deliberately breaching social distancing	Warning and reminder of the importance.
Repeatedly deliberately breaching social distancing (despite instruction otherwise)	Child to be taken to SLT by an adult. Contact with parent/carer to make them aware Individual risk assessment to be carried out with the parent/carer.
Breaching social distancing with intent to threaten or intimidate other pupils (eg, 'pushing a child and saying 'you've got coronavirus').	Child moved to an area away from other children. If this is not possible the rest of the group will be asked to go out on to the playground. Individual risk assessment to be carried out (or existing one reviewed) with the parent/carer. Depending on the outcome, it may be safer for the child to be educated at home.
Breaching social distancing and protocols away from school.	Places at school may be withdrawn if it is brought to our attention that families and children have been breaking government guidelines in relation to social distancing and mixing with others.

Other issues

Issue	Guidance
Class Rules – these typically provide a 'hook' to help pupils remember important expectations.	Rather than just teaching the expectation for social distancing as a separate issue – it is now one of the 'class rules' so that it sits as part of the daily life of the school.
Playground Games – some games that pupils routinely play are no longer appropriate due to social distancing (eg, Tag)	Make this a positive initiative. Pro-actively teach pupils new games that encourage social distancing. Some ideas: https://www.asphaltgreen.org/blog/rep-it-out-games-for-social-distancing
Reward systems – teachers to consider whether their usual reward systems (eg, sticker charts) could be problematic due to social distancing.	Make amendments as needed. Consider alternatives. E.g. marbles in a jar rather than a sticker chart requiring children to approach adults.

Sanctions / Time Out – Children cannot be sent to a partner classroom/another space.

The first Time Out should take place within the classroom. Teachers will need to ensure that an appropriate space is known to the children. If a child needs to be removed from class due to persistent disruptive behaviour, then they will be taken to see the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher who will supervise them in an appropriate space. If the child refuses to leave the classroom then the class will leave the room and the Deputy Head or Head Teacher will be notified.

12th June 2020

This policy addendum will be reviewed as required during 'lock down'.

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