

Behaviour Policy 2020 Covid-19 Addendum

At St Thomas' Primary School we aim to maintain a secure, caring and stimulating environment in which children are encouraged to have respect for themselves and each other.

We believe in an inclusive school – a school which does not discriminate on any level, including economic power, mental health, mental ability, physical ability, gender, age, race or sexuality. We believe in a school which welcomes, accepts and seeks the flourishing and growth of all people, both pupils and staff. We acknowledge that all people are made in the image of God and are unique and precious to him. Our school is a place where we seek to respect all people and to love one another as Jesus taught us, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Everyone is welcome here.

Whilst expectations in St Thomas' Behaviour Policy remain pertinent, it is necessary, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, to make some adjustments for the safety of all pupils and staff. These adjustments are set out below:

Arrivals, Departures and Moving round the school.

Children will enter school through their designated entrance. Children will enter individually and will go straight to their designated bubble, keeping a 2m distance from any other individual. 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 the 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 follow an adult from their bubble on their designated route.

Handwashing and Hygiene

Children will be expected to follow all handwashing and hygiene routines while in school. Children will wash hands/use antibacterial gel before entering school, 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.

Social Distancing

Children who are old enough will be expected to socially distance from their peers and adults in school and on the playground/field at all times. Year 1 and 6 will have their own table spaced 2m apart. When children enter their bubble, 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.

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 have their own toilets to use. These will be sign posted. Children will be encouraged to use the toilets one at a time (this may not always be possible with nursery and reception children). When a child has finished in the toilet they must wash their hands.

Break and Lunch times

Children will have a designated place to play during break and lunch times. They will have their own equipment that will be cleaned after use.

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.

Lunch will be eaten in their bubbles. Children will eat at their table or in their own space. They will not get out of their seats. Children will have packed lunches or a school lunch, which will be brought to them in their bubble.

Rewards

Teachers and Teaching Assistants welcome opportunities to praise individuals for good work, attitude or good behaviour, and show recognition, if these are brought to their attention. Recognition will be provided in the usual way through verbal praise and Dojos. 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.

Sanctions

Sanctions will be used in much the same way as set out in the Behaviour plan with the following amendments:

1. Children will not be isolated following any breaches of the Golden Rules / Plan
2. Children will not be sent to the HT / DHT

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 bubbles 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:

1. Referral to Headteacher
2. Parents/Carers called to collect child from school immediately
3. Immediate swap from onsite education offer to online/virtual education offer
4. Fixed term exclusion
5. Permanent exclusion

Positive Handling & Restraint

There can be times when a pupil's behaviour requires staff physical support to ensure the pupils' own safety, the safety of other pupils and staff, or that property is not seriously damaged. This can require the use of physical interventions. At St Thomas' all members of staff are aware of the

regulations regarding the use of force by teachers, as set out in the DFE document “Use of reasonable force: Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies July 2013”. Staff only intervene physically to restrain children or to prevent injury to a child, or if a child is in danger of hurting him/herself. The actions that we take are in line with government guidelines on the restraint of children.

In the case of a child being at risk, putting others at risk or damaging property the child’s parents or carers will be called and asked to pick up their child immediately. The situation will then be reviewed by the Headteacher and a decision of whether the onsite education offer will be withdrawn in favour of the online/virtual offer if this is deemed safer for all pupils and staff.

Where a child may need very close contact it is imperative that parents know that the use of PPE where appropriate WILL be used to help avoid cross contamination or any potential virus spread.

Pupil’s 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 that 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, via email, or any other platform will be taken very seriously and could result in a referral to the police. 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.