

Behaviour Policy: Covid-19 Addendum

September 2020

Whilst the expectations of our Behaviour Policy remain pertinent, it is necessary, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, to make adjustments for the safety of all of our students and staff as well as the wider community. We all have a collective responsibility to adhere to new rules that exist for society as a whole and not just within the school setting. There is a need for students to take responsibility for their own behaviour and demonstrate consideration for themselves and others, therefore minimising the chances of transmission of the virus.

This addendum aims to clarify the expectations for all staff and students whilst travelling to and from school and during the school day. It is to be used in conjunction with, and read alongside, the Behaviour Policy.

The global Covid-19 pandemic has led to a change in how we define some of our student's behaviours in school and our assessment as to whether these could challenge the safety of the environment, particularly where a student's behaviour could cause an increased risk to their own health or the health of others.

Examples of this might include (but are not limited to):

- Spitting or purposefully coughing or sneezing on someone
- Repeated disregard of social distancing or personal hygiene rules and routines
- Not following expectations for good respiratory hygiene ("Catch it; Bin it; Kill it")
- Not contributing to the collective effort to maintain cleanliness within the school
- Not staying in their allocated classes, tutor groups or designated area at social times
- Not sitting in their allocated seat in lessons
- Not following the one way system through buildings
- Shouting or physical contact that undermines aims to reduce transmission of the virus
- Not following rules for school transport that are provided by the Local Authority
- Sharing food, drink or personal items such as stationary with other students
- Unkind or disrespectful comments to or about others concerning the pandemic

It is absolutely crucial that any student with the symptoms of covid-19 does not attend school and their parent/carer arranges a test. We are required to engage fully with the national track and trace system so it is important that parents and carers keep us updated at each stage. If a student begins to develop symptoms during the day, they must report these discretely to a member of staff and we will arrange for the student to be collected. This must not be abused as full attendance at school is even more important now having had so long out of school over the last academic year.

We hope that all students will understand the need for these new rules and routines however, in the unlikely event that a student does not follow any of these expectations, sanctions will apply. For one off and infrequent poor decisions, a detention will be arranged. For serious breaches, a fixed term exclusion will be considered. If a student persistently fails to meet these expectations, we will work together with the student and their parents/carers to carry out a risk assessment which will explore whether the student can manage in the school environment, under current circumstances. In exceptional circumstances, the outcomes of the risk assessment may mean that will need to impose a period of alternative provision until the student is able to manage within the safety rules, minimizing risk of infection. If the student is unable to manage within the safety rules to minimize the Covid-19 risk, then the offer of a return to school may be removed until a new plan and phased return can be implemented that ensures the current guidance can be adhered to. In all cases, the student's Risk Assessment and plan will be regularly reviewed and the school will work with the family, and relevant services, to ensure support is in place.