



## St Michael's School

### ANNEXE TO BEHAVIOUR POLICY COVID-19

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to the whole school, including the Early Years Foundation Stage

**This policy has been agreed by the SMT and Chair of Governors but has not been formally ratified by the governing body and should be treated as a working document.**

#### **Introduction - Response to COVID-19 phased re-opening of the School**

This annexe sets out the application of the Behaviour Policy with regard to the School under COVID-19 protective measures. The School's Behaviour Policy and its application is fundamentally the same though.

**A flexible approach is key to the situation, of which advice from the government is subject to change.**

#### **The current school position and local advice**

The current school position is in line with government advice. The School pupils are being educated remotely due to the second COVID outbreak. Nursery, Reception and Priority pupils are being educated and facilitated in the school building.

#### **Returning to School**

School can provide a stability and normality for pupils even with the additional protective measures. We are aware that the return to school for pupils will not be the same for all. The different experiences all pupils will have had at home over the festive season with COVID restrictions, will naturally play a large part in how easily they re-adapt to attending school and its routines. Some children may return to school having been exposed to a range of adversity including bereavement and long-term anxiety. It will be especially important to teach new norms and routines to children with SEND around protective measures and personal hygiene clearly and accessibly.

Every reassurance will be given to the pupils concerning their wellbeing, welfare and safety. In addition, protective measures will be in place to ensure their safety. [Planning guide for primary schools - GOV.UK](#)

These additional protective measures will be put in place, in order to manage the pupils with regard to COVID-19 safety requirements in school. These will contribute to the pupils' safety and welfare and are in line with government recommendations.

Staff will be most mindful of the wellbeing of pupils and of the need to involve the pastoral lead as soon as possible should any concerns arise and can refer to [Mental health and behaviour in schools - GOV.UK](#) for guidance. Flexibility to provide extra PSHE and pastoral activities may be considered if deemed necessary.

The School has two Mental Health First Aiders, the DSL and Head of PSHE. Aside from the form teachers providing support their advice may be sought. In addition, the SENDCo is on hand to advise too.

### **Induction**

The School will be proactive and, before pupils start back at school, they will go through an induction process reminding them of existing behaviour standards and expectations and the setting out of the new protective measures and expectations, namely:

- appropriate social distancing
- the following of any altered routines for arrival or departure
- carrying out 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 (for example, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, queuing)
- expectations about sneezing, coughing, tissues and disposal ('catch it, bin it, kill it') and avoiding touching your mouth, nose and eyes with hands
- communicating to an adult if you are experiencing symptoms of Coronavirus
- the rules about sharing any equipment or other items including drinking bottles
- any amended expectations about breaks or play times, including where children may or may not play and use of equipment
- the safe use of toilets
- clear rules about coughing at or towards any other person
- clear rules for pupils at home about conduct in relation to remote education
- rewards and sanction system where appropriate

These basic protective measures will be added to the rules and expectations for Good Behaviour of the School. These behaviours will be regularly and rigorously reinforced throughout the School [Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

### **The Promotion of Good Behaviour**

As in the Behaviour Policy, the School believes that effective management of the annex here will only be achieved with reiterated clear expectations and adequate education, positive reinforcement, responsible pupils and supportive parents. Though the School is mindful of current circumstances and how this may well affect the behaviour of some parents.

Young children and children with special educational needs may not be able to understand the need for social distancing and may also seek close interaction with their peers or adults to provide reassurance at a period of disruption to their routines. The School is also aware that genuine mishaps are usual in a school setting too.

In order to promote good behaviour, risk assessments around managing groups of children should be carried out as well as dynamic risk assessments. This should include limiting the number of children in each group and reducing this to provide more space in each classroom or learning area. As far as possible, small groups of children should be supported by consistent staffing, and groups should remain as consistent as possible throughout the outbreak. This will be encultured in the School as much as possible [Creating a Culture](#)

### **The Management of Unacceptable Behaviour**

It is important for schools to be calm and disciplined environments, where everyone follows the rules. Consequences for not maintaining acceptable behaviour as well as deliberately not following the new protective measures shall be followed by appropriate responses in line with the existing Behaviour Policy. In addition, further education reiterating the protective measures will form an important part of the School's response should these be not observed.

[Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

The School is aware that the current circumstances can affect the mental health of pupils in a way that affects behaviour. [mental health and behaviour in schools](#) The School will be mindful of this in the application of this policy. The School's Mental health policy should be consulted too.

Special consideration will be given when responding to young children, SEND children and those children with existing Mental Health conditions. Whilst social distancing and ongoing risk assessment is a protocol for staff, members of school staff still have the legal power to physically restrain a pupil should the need arise.

### **Safeguarding and Other Agencies**

These are dealt with in the COVID-19 ANNEX to the existing Safeguarding Policy. Where a behaviour may have safeguarding concerns then the Safeguarding Policy should be followed.

D Webb  
Pastoral Lead and DSL

January 2021

### **APPROVAL**

This policy was reviewed remotely by the Chair of Governors, Mark Stennett, in January 2021 and was approved for adoption and implementation.