



NEWCOMEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



'BELIEVE ACHIEVE SUCCEED'

COVID-19 Interim Addendum to Behaviour Policy

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Headteacher: _____ Date: _____

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COVID-19 Interim Addendum to Behaviour Policy

At Newcomen 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.

Whilst expectations in Newcomen Primary School's 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.

The rationale behind this addendum is to ensure that the children, staff and parents and carers at Newcomen Primary School act in a manner that fully supports the very necessary safety measures that have been put into place during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some behaviour concerns referred to in this addendum may have previously been deemed less serious. However, if an action now results in the potential compromising of a person's ability to social distance and stay safe, or purposefully impacts on their health and safety, it will be treated in a more serious manner.

New principles:

- All members of the school community need to respect the altered routines for arrival or departure at the school.
- All members of the school community to follow the instructions on hygiene, such as handwashing and sanitising
- All members of the school community must move around the school in line with guidance from risk assessment.
- All members of the school community need to follow expectations about sneezing and coughing, using tissues and disposing in the in a bin.
- All member of the school community need to tell a member of staff or senior leadership team if they are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus.

Staff:

Staff must adhere to and follow all health, safety and hygiene procedures set out in the COVID-19 Risk Assessment. See Appendix 1.

Parents/Carers:

Parents and carers must adhere to and follow all health, safety and hygiene procedures set out to them in communication by school. Please see the guidance below provided to them:

- In order to minimise the number of people on site at any one time, we will be staggering the start and end of the school day.
- I appreciate that some of you have children across several key stages. In order to maintain a safe and efficient running of the school, please drop off and collect all of your children at the time slot allocated to your youngest child. For example, if you have a child in Reception and KS2, you will drop both children off at 8.30am and collect them at 2.30pm from their respective classrooms.

- Please see below the start and finish times for the appropriate year groups:

Phase	Start	Finish
Nursery	AM – 8.30am PM – 12.15pm	AM- 11.30am PM – 3.15pm
Reception	8.30am	2.30pm
KS1 – Y1/Y2	8.45am	2.45pm
KS2 – Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6	9.00am	3.00pm

- Please be on time to support the smooth running of the school.
- Please limit drop off and collection to one parent or carer per household.
- To ease congestion and minimise social contact, we will be operating a strict one-way system for drop off and collection. Please enter via the main school gate (as normal) outside Miss Pusztai's office and exit the service gate on Avon Road. The routes into and out of the school will be clearly signposted. Please see the attached map for your reference.
- When you and your child are waiting outside the classroom for drop off and collection, I politely request that you maintain social distancing at all times and do not congregate together. We need to consider the safety of every member of our school community.
- We have always welcomed parents and carers into the building but in order to keep everyone safe, this will not be possible. If you need to communicate with the school office, please to do this via telephone and avoid queuing at the hatch. Communication with your child's class teacher will be limited to telephone conversations only. Please contact the school to make an appointment should you need to talk to them.

Pupils

Pupils must adhere to and follow all health, safety and hygiene procedures set out to them in communication by school.

- Children will enter school through their designated entrance. Children will enter individually and will go straight to their designated classroom, keeping a distance from any other individual where possible.
- Children will be kept in their year group and contact will be avoided with year groups.
- Classrooms will be set up so that desks are forward facing. Children will be expected to face forward at all times.
- When children enter their designated area, after washing their hands, they will be expected to go straight to their table in the room unless instructed by a teacher.
- Children will put their hand up if they need an adult's support, they will not get out of their seats. Should a child refuse to follow social distancing measures, disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used
- Children will be provided with their own personal stationery packs.
- Children are allowed to bring in their own bag containing essential items only. These include: packed lunch if your child is on packed lunch, reading books and PE kit.
- Children must not share any equipment or other items. If any child deliberately touches or tampers with another child's equipment or belongings and do not follow the adult instruction when reminded, parents will be called and the child will sent home immediately.
- 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. Hand drying paper towels to be disposed in labelled bins provided.
- We ask children to follow catch it, bin it, kill it 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. Tissues to be disposed of in labelled bins provided.
- Children be required to wear school uniform. Government guidelines indicate COVID-19 can remain on clothes/fabrics and should be washed regularly.
- Children will not be required to wear face coverings.
- Drinking water will be readily available to children throughout the day. They do not need to bring in water from home.

- The children will play in designated zones at lunch time and break time with children from their year group. Children will be encouraged 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 designated indoor area. Children will eat at their table facing forward. They will not get out of their seats unless an adult instructs them to do so.
- The use playground equipment will not be permitted.
- In the event of wet playtime, the children will stay in their designated classroom.
- Each year group 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 reception children). When a child has finished in the toilet, they must wash their hands.
- 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 and be released by a member of staff.
- No bikes or scooters until further notice.
- There will be outdoor hand washing basins available to the children to access during play time and lunch time.

Rewards and Sanctions

The system of praise contained within the Positive Behaviour Policy will continue to be adhered to do but the reward system will need to alter. No stickers or certificates can be given.

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 designated areas 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:

- Parents/Carers called to collect child from school immediately
- Immediate swap from onsite education offer to working at home
- Fixed term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

Mental health and wellbeing

The coronavirus outbreak may have caused significant mental health or wellbeing difficulties for some children. It is important to recognise that while 'getting back to normal' is important and will be reassuring for many of our pupils, we recognise this might impact on behaviour. Therefore, school staff will need to consider how to support:

- individual children who have found the long period at home hard to manage
- those who have developed anxieties related to the virus
- those about whom there are safeguarding concerns
- those who may make safeguarding disclosures once they are back in schools

Some children may also have experienced bereavements in their immediate family or wider circle of friends or family or had increased/new caring responsibilities. All children will have missed the routine of school, seeing their friends, and being supported by their teachers and other adults in the school. Therefore, the first action will be to give children regular reminders of new routines, behaviour expectations and clear instructions to minimise situations that may trigger behaviour concerns and incidents.

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.

In the COVID-19 situation physical interventions will be avoided at all costs. In the event that all other support techniques do not work and the child is at immediate danger to themselves or others, physical intervention may have to be used as an immediate safety precaution. Where a child may need very close contact, it is imperative that the use of PPE where appropriate will be used to help avoid cross contamination or any potential virus spread. This will deemed to be as serious breach of the COVID-19 Behavior Policy addendum and the pupil may no longer to be able to attend

onsite education until it is proven that it is safe for the child to attend. This breach could also lead to a fixed term or permanent exclusion.

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 Head teacher and a decision of whether the onsite education offer will be withdrawn in favour of the working at home offer if this is deemed safer for all pupils and staff.

Pupil's working from home in the event of full or partial school closure.

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 will be taken very seriously. 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.

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. 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 SEN, 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 the necessary adjustments to reduce the stimulus that may be triggering the challenging response.

Children with SEN 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.

The headteacher and Governing Board will have regard for the SEND Code of Practice and the Equality Act.