



Crudgington Primary Behaviour Policy Addendum COVID-19 V.1

Behaviour Policy Addendum - Document Status				
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Forward

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 our school is taking to keep children safe. This means:

- sitting children at desks that are far apart where possible
- keeping apart when in the playground or doing any physical exercise
- visiting the toilet one after the other
- staggering break times
- putting guidelines on the floor in corridors
- avoiding unnecessary staff gatherings

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 addendum.

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 Similarly, there may be exceptional situations with older pupils where social distancing is superseded by our duty of care towards them (such as if a child seriously hurts themselves). In these situations, 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 in school. This is intended to ensure that pupils can learn and thrive in a positive, orderly and safe environment.

This policy addendum will typically 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.

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 addendum.

Classroom Operation

Children and staff will be working in small, socially distanced groups, often referred to as 'bubbles'. These arrangements present a new way of working for both children and staff and will present new behaviour challenges for all concerned. With the view of ensuring everyone at school remains safe and adheres to social distancing protocols, the following behaviour principles and actions will be implemented whilst the school operates in line with COVID-19 protective measures.

The school will continue to use the overarching behaviour principles of:

Ready
Respectful
Safe

General day-to-day issues covered in the behaviour policy will still be subject to the 'Good to be Green' process as usual. In Response to COVID-19 and working to ensure we have the safest environment possible, the following additions and amendments will be put in place.

1. Issuing of red cards

Under normal circumstances when a red card is issued, children are removed from class with an adult and taken to a senior member of staff within school. As we will be operating in bubbles, we will seek to limit all unnecessary pupil movement around school. Therefore, when a red card is issued, the issuing member of staff will radio through to the senior leadership team (SLT). The SLT will then inform them of the appropriate action and SLT will attend the class if needed.

2. Incidents relating to social distancing

As stated at the start of the policy addendum, social distancing in school will be new for all pupils. In all cases, where social distancing is breached, reminders will be offered to children immediately. It is envisioned that regular communication and reminders for children will be enough to ensure that appropriate social distancing is maintained as far as possible.

3. Deliberate breaching of social distancing

Should any child deliberately breach social distancing a member of the Senior Leadership Team will speak with the child regarding their behaviour. It will be stated clearly that any further deliberate breaching of social distancing will lead to a fixed-term exclusion being issued.

4. Deliberate breaching of social distancing with intent to threaten or intimidate children or staff members.

This includes: pushing other children and making remarks such as 'now you have coronavirus' and spitting at children or staff members. Such actions, whilst not only unsafe, are likely to cause considerable upset and worry. Where it is found that such actions have been undertaken, the school will take strong actions to ensure that everyone remains safe and issue a fixed-term exclusion.

5. Physical intervention and restraint (including SEND pupils)

This is a particularly challenging aspect of our policy at this time whilst we follow government guidelines around social distancing. Therefore, we will use physical intervention and positive handling only as a last resort. Nevertheless, there may still be extreme instances where positive handling is required in the interests of safety and pupils. This will be where a failure to intervene could lead to harm.

Whilst decisions to use physical intervention may need to be made quickly they should always take account the precise circumstances of an incident and a judgment should consider:

- Whether physical intervention is reasonable and judged in line with the guidance on social distancing.
- Whether it is essential because pupils are at risk of harm (to themselves or others)

It is therefore expected that physical intervention will only be used in exceptional circumstances.