



# COVID-19

## Addendum to Behaviour for Learning Policy 2019 -2020



Policy & Procedure Number:

Date of Board of Governors Review: June 2020

Next Review Due: September 2020

School Link: Mr A Mitchell

Revision Number: 01



**This policy should be read in conjunction with our BfL Policy, guidance from our website and the guidance set out by the DfE. The amendments below should be considered as part of the school's Behaviour for Learning (BfL) Policy until further notice.**

## **1. Purpose**

1.1 Despite the partial closure of schools as a result of COVID-19 and Government guidance, it remains essential that as far as possible, Wade Deacon High School continues to:

- Communicate the latest guidelines in response to COVID-19 to Governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers.
- Create a secure, safe and calm environment where pupils can be confident and happy.
- Ensure that all Governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers are aware of the high expectations of the school in terms of behaviour/conduct.
- Ensure absolute clarity about the expected standards of pupils' behaviour.
- Promote positive behaviour and self-discipline.

1.2 The way that the school is currently operating in response to COVID-19 is fundamentally different to business as usual however, our incredibly high standards and expectations remain.

1.3 At Wade Deacon High School, poor behaviour will not be tolerated; behaviour that puts pupils, teachers or support staff at risk will be dealt with seriously.

1.4 Leaders and staff will actively speak to pupils to help them understand the importance of the protection rules and the potential implications of ignoring them.

## **2. Positive Conduct First**

2.1 Praise and rewards should continue to have the main focus to encourage pupils to participate, perform and progress.

2.2 Staff members will be actively encouraged to continue to follow the school's rewards policy, providing pupils with satisfaction and pride in their achievements. This may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Quality first teaching/Planning for positive behaviours and engagement;
- Smiles/Verbal praise;
- RISE points;
- Telephone calls home;
- Commendation messages (via Synergy/email).



### 3. Classroom management

3.1 The management of classrooms will look different under the new Government guidance as class sizes will be at a maximum of 10 pupils.

3.2 Please note that pupils may not have access to their normal teacher.

3.3 Classrooms will be arranged to support social distancing.

3.4 Teachers will continue to build positive relationships with pupils, always looking for ways to encourage positive behaviour, increase self-esteem and take opportunities to remind pupils about the new rules and routines in order to keep everyone safe.

### 4. Rules and Routine

4.1 It is important that the behaviour of pupils helps to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

4.2 As set out in the guidance from the DfE, it is vital for schools to be calm and disciplined environments, where everyone follows the rules, therefore pupils must:

- Always respect social distancing rules;
- Follow the instructions of staff, at all times;
- Remain in the POD/location in which they have been placed;
- Not mix with any other children in school that are not in their POD;
- Only enter and exit the school building from the designated area;
- Only use the equipment in their pack - Never share equipment, such as pens, drinks bottle or sports equipment;
- Follow the one-way system around school;
- Tell an adult if they are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus;
- Never cough, sneeze or spit towards another person;
- Adopt the school's protocol on hygiene, such as handwashing their hands or using hand sanitiser as soon as they come to school and when asked by staff;
- Follow the catch it-bin it-kill it rules by coughing and sneezing into elbow or tissue;
- Conduct themselves in a manner which does not put their fellow pupils or teachers at risk;
- Respect themselves and others, at all times;
- Follow all school/POD rules. Students who don't will receive serious sanctions.

4.3 During the current COVID 19 situation, pupils are required to follow the school's expectations in terms of the one way system, entrance and exit doors and their designated work areas.

4.4 Food and drink should only be consumed in the designated areas. During COVID 19, pupils will be given allocated time slots for breaks. Pupils will remain in their designated areas.



## **5. Breaking the rules (deliberately disobeying rules on protective measures)**

5.1 Upon return to school, pupils will be made aware of the rules and routines put in place to keep everyone safe and help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

5.2 It is vital that all rules and routines are followed by pupils; this includes pupils using the correct entrance and exit they have been allocated, following the specific instructions of staff and most importantly, all pupils following the social distancing rules.

5.3 Pupils who fail to follow the rules and routines set out by the school will be dealt with in accordance with the school's staged approach towards behaviour; consequences for disobeying the rules could result in but are not limited to:

- Verbal warning;
- A phone call home;
- Loss of free time;
- Internal Exclusion;
- Fixed Term Exclusion;
- Permanent Exclusion;
- Any other sanction deemed appropriate.

5.4 Any pupil who commits serious or persistent breach of the new COVID-19 protection rules for example, spitting or deliberately coughing on or near someone, may be sanctioned by the Principal using the full range of sanctions available, dependent on the seriousness of the breach, up to and including, in extreme cases, permanent exclusion.

## **6. Corrections**

6.1 During the initial reopening of school, Corrections will not be used as a sanction; this is to adhere to the timings of the school day.

## **7. Behaviour Plans**

7.1 Any pupil returning to school who was previously on a Behaviour Plan (before we entered the 'lockdown phase') will be spoken to by their Progress Leader (or a member of the Senior Leadership Team) to help them understand the importance of the protection rules and the potential implications of ignoring them.

7.2 The member of staff will also review their current Behaviour Plan and outline the expectations and any amendments required.

## **8. Internal Exclusions**

8.1 Internal Exclusions may be used as a sanction for any pupil who disobeys the rules and routines put in place to keep pupils and staff safe.



8.2 Pupils will be provided with opportunities to correct their behaviour. As always, staff will work positively with our pupils to correct any unwanted behaviour, using language of choice, positive reinforcement and verbal reminders.

8.3 However, please note that any behaviour that puts their fellow pupils or teachers at risk will be dealt with seriously and may result in escalated actions.

8.4 If an Internal Exclusion is deemed appropriate, pupils will be removed to another room (respecting social distancing). This room will be supervised by a member of staff.

8.5 Pupils and staff will be expected to respect social distancing at all times.

8.6 Pupils will be expected to follow all instructions given, work independently when requested and complete all work set. As always, academic support will be available.

## **9. Fixed Term Exclusions**

9.1 As stated by the DfE guidelines, 'the disciplinary powers that schools currently have, including exclusion, remain in place'. As a school, we will continue to follow our BfL policy on exclusions.

9.2 In making a decision to exclude, the Principal will ensure that their decisions are fair, based on the facts of the incident and do not include any elements of discrimination.

9.3 However, we are aware that some pupils will return to school having been exposed to a range of adversity including bereavement and long term anxiety. This may lead to an increase in social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) concerns.

9.4 Each case of serious misconduct will be dealt with on an individual basis. The school will investigate thoroughly and gather the facts to make an informed decision.

9.5 The school will act fairly and in the best interest of the pupil and our ability to keep pupils and teachers safe.

9.6 Please note, during COVID-19 it is reasonable for the school to work with parents/carers in the best interest of all parties in order to keep everyone safe; as a result, this may include pupils being educated at home during the COVID-19 period if they pose a risk to the safety of themselves and others.

## **10. Supporting SEND/LAC/Vulnerable pupils.**

10.1 We are aware that some pupils will return to school having been exposed to a range of adversity including bereavement and long term anxiety. This may lead to an increase in social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) concerns.

10.2 School will refresh our pupils on school routines and expectations and talk to our pupils about their feelings, behaviours, rules and why they are needed.



10.3 Where reasonably possible, SEND/LAC/Vulnerable pupils will continue to get the support of our mentor and safeguarding team along with other members of pastoral care. We understand that this is vital for these pupils to ensure they feel comfortable when in school.

10.4 The school will endeavour to involve other agencies to provide wrap around care for pupils who need additional support. This may include the signposting of other agencies when needed.

## **11. Use of Reasonable Force in Schools**

11.1 The legal provisions on school discipline provides members of staff with the power to use reasonable force to prevent pupils committing an offence, injuring themselves or others or damaging property.

11.2 During the COVID-19 period, all reasonable social distancing measures will be adhered to, however, this might not be possible where there may be risk of significant harm to staff, students or visitors.

11.3 Incidents of physical altercations (such as fighting) between pupils and/or aggressive behaviour towards pupils or staff will be dealt with seriously by the school.

11.4 During COVID-19, incidents of physical confrontation may result in a pupil being sent home. In this situation, it is reasonable for the school to ask parents/carers to come and collect their child; this will be followed up with a phone call by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

11.5 The ability to keep everyone safe in school is our main priority during this challenging time. Pupils who fail to comply with social distancing and our school rules may be required to be educated at home during the COVID-19 period.

11.6 The decision on whether or not to physically intervene is down to the professional judgement of the staff member concerned and should always depend on the individual circumstances.

## **12. Searching, Screening & Confiscation**

12.1 Staff that are appointed by the Principal to complete a search with a pupil will wear PPE and adhere to all reasonable social distancing measures with pupils; this might not be possible where there may be risk of significant harm to staff, students or visitors.

12.2 Please see BfL policy for further details on searching, screening and confiscation.

## **13. Home Learning**

13.1 As a school, we are looking forward to getting all pupils back to normal schooling, however in the meantime pupils should:



- Try their best with work set by their class teachers;
- Ask for help when needed;
- Support their families and follow instructions;
- Look after themselves and take regular breaks;
- Remember to stay safe online.