



Venerable Bede CE Academy - Addendum to the Behaviour and Discipline Policy due to the circumstances of COVID-19

Due to the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus, it is necessary that all schools are prepared and have appropriate arrangements in place in relation to behaviour and discipline and the management of pupils whilst they are attending school. Therefore, we have produced this addendum to our existing Behaviour and Discipline Policy to ensure all staff, directors, pupils and parents/carers understand our protocols for managing behaviour during this time.

Pupils within school

At present the school is not open to all pupils. Currently school is open to the following pupils:

- Year 7 – Year 11 pupils whose parents are key workers
- Year 7 – Year 11 vulnerable pupils (including LAC, EHCP and pupils who have a social worker)

Also

- Plans are currently being reviewed in light of the government announcement for some face-to-face Y10 contact - more information to follow

Pupil expectations

In light of the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus it is vitally important for all pupils who come into the school building to follow the simple behaviour expectations (as outlined in the Behaviour and Discipline policy):

- To be ready (for school and learning)
- To be respectful (to others, to themselves and to the environment around them)
- To be safe (in lessons and around the academy)
- Through following these expectations pupils will put Jesus' teaching of 'love your neighbour as yourself' into practice and promote the Academy's core Christian values of joy, hope, forgiveness, wisdom and perseverance.

Additionally, in order to ensure that all pupils and staff are kept safe during the Coronavirus pandemic, pupils MUST adhere to the following rules whilst they attend school:

- Follow staff instructions first time with no argument or debate
- Ensure that social distancing measures are followed all of the time (i.e. maintain their distance from other pupils and staff within classrooms, corridors, outside spaces and lunch areas).
- Sit in the seat that has been allocated for them in classrooms and in the Bistro/Hall. Use the computer that has been provided for them.
- Follow sanitisation measures (i.e. immediately wash hands upon entering the school building, wash their hands after using the toilet, wash their hands before and after consuming food/drink at break/lunchtime, use the provided hand sanitiser).
- When in classrooms and the Bistro/Hall, to remain in their seat at all times unless a member of staff has given permission to move around.

Positive behaviour management

In line with the spirit of the Behaviour and Discipline policy, all staff will endeavour to use positive behaviour management to encourage the pupils with the work they complete whilst at school. This will be seen through positive behaviour being consistently recognised, rewarded and celebrated. Positive behaviour management may therefore include:

- Praise and positive verbal feedback whilst pupils are in the classroom or around school
- Positive behaviour points recorded on the Class Charts system
- Communication with parents through the Class Charts app in relation to positive behaviour.
- Telephone communication with parents in relation to positive behaviour.

Consequences for negative behaviour

Whilst we encourage, promote and reward positive behaviour, any negative behaviour will not be tolerated and appropriate sanctions will be put in place. Clear pupil expectations exist, as well as specific rules to promote the safety of all. All pupils are expected to follow these at all times. Pupils are expected to be responsible for their own behaviour and actions.

At present, we will not be following the sanctions ladder (outlined in the Behaviour and Discipline policy) due to the specific nature and demands of keeping everyone safe during the coronavirus epidemic. Depending on the severity of a pupil's actions, if a pupil does not follow behaviour expectations or the rules to promote the safety of all, then they will be spoken to by the member of staff who will ensure that the pupil ceases their inappropriate behaviour in a manner which keeps everyone safe.

For pupils who repeatedly refuse to follow the behaviour expectations, or refuse to follow the rules to promote the safety of all (or there is a significant breach to the expectations/rules) then the member of staff will inform a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The member of SLT will contact the pupil's parents to inform them of the incident and ask that they either collect their child or give permission for them to be sent home unaccompanied. The pupil will not be allowed to access school learning until discussions have been held between parents and SLT, and that school is then confident that the pupil can abide by the expectations and rules. Up until that point, education at home will be deemed the appropriate provision for the pupil so that the restrictions during the current coronavirus outbreak can be managed in school. This would be in line with the school's Risk Assessment which indicates that this unacceptable behaviour is deemed too much of a risk to keep a pupil in school. The Academy retains the right to impose sanctions, up to and including permanent exclusion, as is appropriate to the circumstances. We would like to remind everyone that certain types of behaviour which put others at increased risk of infection from the coronavirus, are deemed to be criminal acts.

Mobile phones

Under normal circumstances, pupils are not allowed to use mobile phones within school grounds. Usually, pupils are asked to place their mobile phones in their lockers as soon as they enter the building.

However, in these unprecedented times, to support pupils' and parents' wellbeing, we have amended what is allowed in relation to mobile phones.

- Pupils may bring their mobile phones into school and use these at break and lunchtime (within the Bistro/Hall/outside spaces).
- Pupils should not use their mobile phones within classrooms or corridors (except to listen to music through headphones whilst they work if this is appropriate and does not interfere with the pupils' learning).
- At no point should pupils use their mobile phones to take photos or videos.