



## **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. These arrangements apply from September 2020 when all pupils return to school. This addendum to the Behaviour, Discipline and Exclusion Policy ensures all staff, directors, pupils and parents/carers understand our protocols for managing behaviour during this time.

### **Pupil expectations**

In light of the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus, it is vitally important for all pupils to follow the simple behaviour expectations outlined in the Behaviour, Discipline and Exclusion 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.

From September 2020 all pupils will return to school. Following government guidelines pupils will be separated into year group bubbles wherever possible. The following strategies will therefore be put in place:

- At the start of the school day pupils will assemble in year group areas across the school grounds
- Pupils will be met by their form tutor and taken into the school building
- A one-way system around the school building has been implemented and will be followed by all pupils and staff
- During the changeover of lessons all pupils and staff will follow the one-way system and will maintain social distance from pupils in other year groups
- Hand sanitisation boxes have been placed in each classroom. Pupils are expected to use these as they enter a classroom (and also sanitise their desk area)
- Break time will be staggered so that fewer year groups will be having their break at the same time
- A split lunch system will be put in place whereby a maximum of 2 year groups will access the canteen at any one time. This allows for year groups to be separated in either the Bistro or the Stage End of the Hall
- During break and lunch, pupils will only access their year group area of the school grounds
- Pupils will not be able to access their lockers. Consequently, all equipment that pupils need for the day should be carried around in a school bag
- Mobile phones should be kept in pupils' bags and should not be used within lessons or at break or lunch times.
- Specific toilets have been identified for each year group to use at break and lunch times. There will be regular cleaning of these toilets throughout the day.

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

- Comply with all the strategies outlined above

- Follow staff instructions first time with no argument or debate
- Follow the one-way system around school at all times, maintaining an appropriate distance between pupils in different year groups.
- Ensure that social distancing measures between different year groups are followed wherever possible (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 by the class teacher.
- Follow sanitisation measures (e.g. sanitise their hands when entering each classroom and sanitise their desk area, wash their hands and sanitise them after using the toilet).

### **Positive behaviour management**

In line with the spirit of the Behaviour, Discipline and Exclusion Policy, all staff will endeavour to use positive behaviour management to encourage in their learning and to promote good behaviour. This will be seen through positive behaviour being consistently recognised, rewarded and celebrated. Positive behaviour management will continue to include:

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

### **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 during the current pandemic. All pupils are expected to follow these at all times. Pupils are expected to be responsible for their own behaviour and actions.

In relation to negative behaviour, the sanctions ladder (as outlined in the Behaviour, Discipline and Exclusion policy) will be used. The sanctions ladder is displayed in each classroom and provides a clear and consistent approach to behaviour management.

In the current unprecedented circumstances, maintaining the safety of all pupils and staff is of paramount importance. For pupils who repeatedly refuse to follow the behaviour expectations, or deliberately put the safety of other pupils and staff in jeopardy (for example, purposefully coughing on someone), then significant consequences will apply. These may include:

- Fixed-term exclusion to home
- Working from home (accessing online learning) until a meeting can be organised with parents/carers to ensure that safety can be maintained
- Time spent in the Learning Zone to support learning and behaviour
- Permanent exclusion

### **Support for pupils**

Upon returning to school from September 2020, many pupils are likely to need social, emotional and behavioural support. Some pupils will need extra support, such as those who have had poor

attendance or those who have previously shown behavioural issues. Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as well as those who have not engaged with school during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak may also need further support.

This support may take the form of:

- Increased engagement with parents/carers to plan for their child's return to school
- Staff training linked to pupils who may require additional support
- Ensuring that all pupils are aware of updates to the Behaviour, Discipline and Exclusion Policy and the behaviour expectations
- Consistent application from all staff of the Behaviour, Discipline and Exclusion Policy and also the application of rewards and consequences
- The creation or updating of support plan (which are then shared with all staff, pupils and parents/carers)
- Linking with outside agencies and support services to ensure that targeted support is available as appropriate to the individual pupil.