

## **Kingsway Primary School Behaviour Adaptations:** **Covid response** **(Autumn 2020)**

In light of the need for children to adapt to and follow new routines when they return to school, Kingsway Primary School has adapted some aspects of our current Behaviour Policy. (2019/20)

Our broad strategies for dealing with the behaviour will not change. We will still employ our emotion coaching/ trauma informed techniques which now, more than ever, will be needed to help the children understand the emotions they may be feeling and how to be resilient in adapting to these changes.

As always, we will NEVER shout at children if they do not follow the rules. We continue to **listen, understand** and **talk** with children knowing that what could be termed as 'poor behaviour' is better termed 'distressed behaviour' and should be approached with an empathic understanding.

Due to the age and maturity of the children in school we anticipate that they will find it difficult to remember some of the new rules. The onus is on the school to provide very frequent reminders, practices and explanations to pupils who are liable to forget important new routines. Regular coaching and lessons built around social distancing, hygienic behaviours and toileting arrangements will be particularly important using careful explanations and gentle reminders.

Consequences for not following these 'rules' will be proportionate and broadly in line with current consequences however we will ensure protective factors against such rule breaking are in place and we will stagger our responses carefully. However swift action may need to be taken to remove any immediate or ongoing risk to children and adults in school. The safety and welfare of all staff and children will always come first

### **Rewards**

Our behaviour modification strategies will continue to reward all types of positive behaviour however, in light of social distancing such positive reinforcement will be based around verbal positive praise. Teachers will ensure that children are aware of the specific positive behaviours that are being rewarded. By promoting and demonstrating the positive culture of praise and recognition in the classroom, Kingsway staff will

encourage all children to 'follow their lead'. This will equally apply to the Health and Safety rules around Covid-19. While the covid pandemic emergency exists, we will **NOT** use stickers on children's clothing, handshakes, high fives or other forms of physical contact in order to deliver praise and reward.

### Behaviour around routines for arrival and departure

We will be using specific entrances and exits for each class bubble. Children **MUST** use the exit and the entrance for their bubble. Gentle and frequent reminders and monitoring should prevent any deliberate ignoring of these rules. Children and families will be reminded that lateness is not acceptable unless an emergency has occurred and that gates will be locked promptly after each arrival time. Late comers must report to the office.

### Moving around school

Children must only use corridors in school to access toilets, medical areas or under the supervision of an adult. Should children move around school without permission they will be reminded of the school rules. Children will be given a permission slip by an adult if movement without supervision is impossible. Responses will be proportionate but if rules are deliberately ignored then Health and Safety considerations will dictate the speed of escalation.

### Class 'Bubbles'

Children will stay with their 'bubbles' all day. They will be able to play with the children within their own 'bubble' however, bubbles will not mix together.

Each class will have an area to play in at lunch and break time, they must stay in this area. If children leave their bubble deliberately they will, initially, be reminded of the rules. If they continue to leave the bubble or area that they have been allocated to then parents will be informed and in cases where this is persistent we may ask parents to remove children from school during the lunchtime period.

In extreme cases, children who need to stay in during break times or lunchtimes will stay in their classroom with an adult present. We will always inform Parents if this has, or will, occur.

### Illness and Symptoms

We know that children will be affected by hayfever and have colds during their time at school. This will mean they could be coughing and sneezing. We will frequently remind the children on a regular basis about '**Catch it, bin it, kill it**' and covering their mouths when coughing. We will also remind children about this when we feel that they may

have forgotten. This will be followed by the expectation that children will wash their hands.

### Deliberate coughing and spitting

Should a child be found to be **deliberately** spitting or coughing on other children or adults this will be taken extremely seriously. We understand that due to their age and maturity, some children may not understand the seriousness of this or may be experimenting with boundaries. We will take into account all of these factors and respond in a graduated and appropriate way. **However, swift action will be taken if this continues to compromise the safety of staff and other children.**

The parents/carers of children who may have been deliberately and/or significantly coughed or spat on, will be informed (*although it will not be practical or possible to inform all parents of all coughs and colds in the classroom.*)

The parents/carers of the child/children who deliberately coughed or spat will be informed and may be asked to collect their child immediately.

### Equipment

Class bubbles will be set out to address social distancing rules as advised at the time by Public Health England. At the current time we will attempt to have uncluttered classrooms and cloakrooms. A minimum of equipment will be brought into school and cloakrooms will have restricted usage. We will avoid children sitting directly opposite each other (age appropriate) and there will be social distancing between the adults and pupils as far as is practical and possible. Equipment will be provided for each child and NOT shared (age appropriate). We will remind the children about this and explain to them why, on this occasion, sharing isn't safe.

PE equipment will be cleaned after use with antibacterial wipes or sprays. Most PE will be outside unless unavoidable.

### Lunch times

We will remind children that they should only eat and drink from their own lunch boxes and water bottles. We will expect each child to bring in their own water bottle and take their own rubbish home.

Lunchtime supervisors will be extra vigilant that this is not happening and remind children.

## Use of toilets

An adult will monitor the toilet areas to ensure that social distancing can be adhered to. The outer toilet doors (not the cubicle doors) will remain open so that health and safety rules can be monitored.

We will check that children have washed their hands after visiting the toilet.

## Challenging Behaviour

If children exhibit more challenging behaviour in the classroom and have not responded to the behaviour strategies used by the teacher, it may be necessary to isolate them from the rest of the class; this may be within the classroom or elsewhere with another member of staff. While the COVID emergency procedures remain in place, teachers will NOT send children to another bubble. In the unlikely event of a child needing to be physically removed, we will use the minimum amount of contact necessary in-line with our physical restraint guidance.

Typically, we would attempt to de-escalate the situation using our emotion coaching strategies and talk about the reasons behind their behaviour if this is appropriate. Another approach might be to move other children to a safe area. If the behaviour continues we will contact parents and a fixed exclusion may apply. Before returning to school we will discuss the need for risk assessments during a 'return to school' meeting.

Date: September 2020