

Behaviour Policy

Revised: June 2020

Review date: As appropriate

Covid 19 appendix

Please see also our Home/School agreement appendix

At St Mary's we are aware of the potential difficulties for our pupils as they come to terms with a range of changes in their home and school life.

Research has told us that building resilience is key to promoting emotional well-being and a safe return to school. Key factors that we will endeavor to implement are listed below.

Key factors that promote resilience at an individual and group level

- *Promote sense of safety.*
E.g. through normal school routines/ reliable and regular information sharing
- *. Promote calming.*
E.g. scheduling structured relaxation into the school day
- *Promote sense of self- and collective efficacy.*
E.g.: Activities that promote a sense of control and coping
Use of circle time to solve interpersonal issues
- *Promote connectedness.*
E.g. make time to support the sharing of the experience of the disruption of CoVid19 through class-based story sharing, assemblies etc.
- *Promote hope.*
Use culturally acceptable ways of talking about building a better future (eg. Faith based, secular)

Taken together, these principles will help to establish a communal story that reinforces resilience. Appropriate play and socialising will support all these areas, and is particularly important.

(Hobfoll, S. et al (2007)

STAY ON GREEN

A Whole School Behaviour Approach

It is essential that St Mary's has a whole school approach to promote and teach the skills required to ensure positive behaviour and relationships with the schools values at the centre of this. The behaviour policy will play a significant part in supporting the social, moral, spiritual, emotional and physical environment in which pupils, parents and staff work together. This 'team' working is reflected in the schools home school agreement.

Covid 19 – addition expectations for children:

As children return to school the expectations in addition to the above are the following:

- Children will stay in their specific 'bubbles' and not mix with children from other 'bubbles' while on school premises
- Children will follow the social distancing expectations that school has laid out and will not deliberately seek to break these expectations
- Sanctions will be in line with the Stay on Green policy however, if a child is deemed to be exhibiting behaviour which may compromise the safety of themselves and others e.g. leaving their bubble or refusing to follow instructions then they will be temporarily excluded from school, their parents called and they will not be allowed back until a reintegration meeting demonstrates that they are prepared to follow the safety rules and a full risk assessment carried out.

This links to the home school agreement – please see below for the child's part of the agreement.

I will do my best to:

- Follow the social distancing rules around all areas of the school and in the playground
- Tell an adult if I feel unwell
- Not bring things into school from home, or take things home from school

- Only use the equipment provided to me by school
- Only mix with the children in my 'bubble'
- Only enter and exit the school building from the designated gate I have been given
- When coughing and sneezing use "Catch it", "Bin it" and "Kill it"
- Wash hands regularly- use soap and water for 20 seconds/ hand sanitiser
- Behave well at all times to keep myself and others safe
- Follow Stay on Green at all times
- Keep safe by following instructions from my teachers

Challenges for children

- COVID-19 should be seen as a trauma and for some children they will express this in different ways both internally and externally
- Some children will find the limited or no transition within or to other schools challenging
- Attachment issues after an extended period at home may present
- Reforming friendships may be a challenge
- Family circumstances e.g. bereavement, financial challenges, family dynamics

These are not exhaustive.

Actions

The schools focus will prioritise wellbeing and PSHE in the first instance. Things may include:

- Talking openly about COVID and its impact
- Daily morning check ins
- Encouraging use of zones of regulation in individuals packs
- Staff being clear about changes and why things have changed inc use of PPE, class sizes
- Being physical and taking opportunities to be outdoors
- Collective reflection and worship
- Circle times
- Having honest discussions about our concerns (within reason)
- Making use of the local community to support us e.g. direct to St Mary's Church, Educational Psychologist, food bank and other agencies.
- Link school / uk / world changes to safety and promote safety
- Social stories
- Effective communication between parents and school

Collective trauma

The school recognises collective trauma and the impact COVID 19 may have had on children, parents / carers and staff.

Action

- Identification of adults and / or children that may need support and signposting them appropriately

Practice and procedures

- Staff will remind children in an encouraging way of all new expectations
- Identify children that will need to have individual risk assessments
- Share risk assessment with families and children in preparation for school
- Follow stay on green as before
- Time out will be taken in class
- Support from SLT will be asked for via walkie talkie
- Incidents will be recorded in the normal way however communication with families will be over the telephone
- We will follow guidance and take advice from the exclusions team if necessary
- Staff will restrain a child as per normal procedures e.g.

Our expectations

- We recognise the additional challenges for children with regards to the new expectations as described above e.g. remaining within a bubble and certain areas
- We are mindful of the difference between accidental breaches of expectations and deliberate and persistent breaches that may result in sanctions or exclusion
- During these unprecedented times, safety of all pupils and staff has to be at the forefront of all our decisions. There is now an extra layer of safety expectations in addition to our normal procedures because of the risk of COVID infection.

Other agencies

- School continues to take advice from a range of professionals with regards to revised procedures.
- School will continue to seek advice where needed.