

Behaviour for Learning Policy – COVID 19 Addendum



Temporary Addendum to the Behaviour for Learning Policy in response to the wider opening of schools during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Catholic High School, Chester

Date: 1st March 2021

Date shared with staff:

1. Introduction

1.1 Following schools being closed to the majority of pupils, the Department for Education have announced the opening of Secondary Schools for all pupils from 8th March 2021.

1.2 This addendum to the Behaviour For Learning Policy details adaptations made whilst Covid-19 restrictions (including “year group bubbles”) are in place for students, rather than providing the typical school day experienced up to April 2020.

1.3 To make it easy to read, this addendum talks about *teachers*. But when we use the word *teachers* we also mean *other staff with responsibility for pupils*.

1.4 This policy appendix is guided by the Department for Education Guidance released throughout the academic year 2020/21 regarding the re-opening of schools and other education establishments.

1.5 This policy addendum is specifically intended to:

- ensure the safety of every member of staff and pupil during this time
- encourage young people to take responsibility for their behaviour during this time
- tackle incidents/instances of poor behaviour effectively and fairly during this time
- allow teachers to feel safe and supported during this time
- foster an environment where all members of the school community respect and adhere to the social distancing guidance during this time

1.9 The information in this policy addendum will be communicated:

- to pupils – by email, in the form tutor session held on pupils’ first day back in school and in the Policies section of the school’s website
- to teachers – by email and in the relevant section of the School’s website.
- To parents/carers – by SIMS InTouch email/letter sent and in the relevant section of the Academy’s website

2. What we expect pupils to do during this time

2.1 Pupils must only use the entrance/exit they have been assigned to enter/leave the school building.

2.2 Teachers may wear face masks but they should be able to keep a 2m distance in the classroom unlike pupils from their peers.

2.3 It is strongly recommended that face coverings are worn by pupils in classrooms, indoor communal areas, corridors and on public transport unless they are medically exempt. Staff will inform pupils of the collective importance of everyone wearing a mask. There can be nothing inappropriate on the face mask, that includes any political statements.

2.4 When not in use, masks should be placed away out of sight.

2.5 Pupils must sanitise their hands on entering the school building.

2.6 Pupils must walk directly to the year group zone they have been assigned. Pupils are not permitted to move around the building freely or move outside their designated zone.

2.7 Pupils must sanitise their hands on entering and leaving the classroom.

2.8 Pupils must walk directly to their assigned desk. Pupils must only sit at their assigned desk or as directed by a teacher. Pupils must not touch any desk assigned to another pupil or any equipment on a desk assigned to another pupil unless directed to do so by a teacher.

- 2.9 Pupils must only enter their designated area during break and lunch time.
- 2.10 Pupils must meet our expected behaviour in class which is set out in the Behaviour for Learning Policy.
- 2.11 Pupils must not attempt to make physical contact with any other person.
- 2.12 Pupils must not deliberately, unnecessarily or maliciously perform actions associated with symptoms of Covid-19, for example but not limited to, spitting, coughing and/or sneezing or any action that could spread germs.
- 2.13 Pupils must follow the government guidance when needing to cough or sneeze by covering their mouth and nose with a tissue or coughing or sneezing into their arm.
- 2.14 Due to the movement of teachers, rather than pupils, between classrooms, there may be short periods of time where pupils will be unaccompanied. Pupils must continue to meet the expectations that have been detailed and explained to them during these times.
- 2.15 Students are permitted to use mobile phones to support their learning as directed by a teacher.
- 2.16 Students may also use mobile phones during lunch and break times, however, the guiding principles of our Mobile Phone Policy will still apply with regard to inappropriate usage; In particular we will not tolerate unauthorised use of cameras in phones, misuse of social media, texting or messaging.

3. What we expect our teachers to do during this time

- 3.1 We expect all our teachers to address any behaviour that is unacceptable, that breaks our school rules or who doesn't follow a reasonable instruction.
- 3.2 Teachers will address poor behaviour by giving a verbal warning then following the BFL system.
- 3.3 Where the behaviour of a pupil makes us worried that they could cause harm to themselves or another person the pupil will be removed from the class by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

4. The actions we may take when a pupil misbehaves during this time

- 4.1 Any pupil that displays behaviours that demonstrate they are not willing to cooperate with us in maintaining a safe environment will be deemed to have committed a serious breach of the school's Behaviour For Learning Policy and therefore an additional sanction, detailed in the school's Behaviour For Learning Policy may be considered.
- 4.2 The following are some examples of what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour specific to the context of the phased return delivery of face-to-face sessions, though the list is not exhaustive:
- refusing to sanitise or wash hands
 - entering an out of bounds area of school
 - refusing to wear and store face masks in a safe manner, following government guidelines
 - not moving directly to the allocated classroom
 - deliberately making physical contact, or attempting to make physical contact, with another person

- deliberately, unnecessarily or maliciously performing actions associated with symptoms of Covid-19, for example but not limited to, spitting, coughing and/or sneezing or any action that could spread germs
- not attempting to cover the nose and mouth with a tissue or arm when coughing and/or sneezing

5. Behaviour outside the school during this time

5.1 Pupils must not congregate in groups with others beyond their household before or after school.

5.2 Pupils must leave the school site when directed and once through the gate make their way directly to their home.