

Addendum to the Behaviour Policy in response to Covid-19: November 2020 update based on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#behaviour-expectations>

To summarise, our behaviour policy still stands but with the addition of either rewards for good adherence to protective measures or sanctions for non-adherence.

The protective measures are the wearing of face masks in corridors and communal areas, social distancing, regular hand washing and/or hand sanitation, classroom cleaning on changeover and 'catch it, bin it, kill it' – these should be reinforced by all staff at every available opportunity. In addition staff in face-to-face contact with students should be vigilant for students who might be in need of additional support for their mental health.

All students and parents have been informed of these protective measures.

Sanctions

The disciplinary powers that schools currently have, including exclusion, remain in place.

Failure to adhere to Covid-19 mitigation measures is now a category for recording behaviour points on SIMS so this should be used as for any other breach of the behaviour policy.

For students failing to bring masks to school names are recorded and repeat offenders given an LLD.

Repeated failure to adhere to Covid-19 mitigation measures will escalate as for any other breaches of the behaviour policy.

Some children will have returned to school having been exposed to a range of adversity including bereavement and long term anxiety. This may lead to an increase in social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) concerns. Additionally, where children have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), their provision may have been disrupted during partial school closure and there may be an impact on their behaviour. We will support students with their behaviour through the behaviour ladder and our wellbeing support team as for any other students showing repeated breaches of the behaviour policy.

Additional support and access to services such as Educational Psychologists, social workers, and counsellors continues. For children and young people with SEND, and for the entire student body, they have been taught new norms and routines around protective measures and personal hygiene at an appropriate level.

Head teachers retain the power to exclude pupils on disciplinary grounds. Any decision to exclude should be lawful (with respect to the legislation relating directly to exclusions and a school's wider legal duties, including the European Convention on Human Rights and the Equality Act 2010); rational; reasonable; fair; and proportionate. Permanent exclusion should only be used as a last resort, in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy, and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

There may be changes to the exclusion process necessitated by protective measures but all statutory requirements remain.

Rewards

The existing house point system may be used to reward adherence to protective measures