

St Clement's and St John's CE Infant School

Addendum: additional expectations of behaviour to apply whilst Covid-19 related restrictions on movement and activity are in place

The school's Behaviour Policy will continue to apply and be enforced as usual during this period of partial school opening.

However, new rules outlined below must be rigorously observed. They must be fully explained to and understood by pupils. Similarly, consequences for breaching this set of additional rules must be made clear to the children and followed through as outlined in this document.

1. Arrival at school

Children will be asked to arrive at school via a nominated entrance at their directed time. The time slot and the nominated entrance will be communicated to parents and children ahead of the school reopening. These time slots will be allocated to the children: for example, if a child is allocated the 8:45 slot, they must attend at that time every day unless it is communicated to the school that a child cannot arrive until later due to sibling drop off/ collection at Bethany Junior School.

They must not congregate with other children on the playground or at the gates but must walk directly to their classroom, entering via the external door to their designated classroom. In most circumstances this will not be a child's regular room. They must not play on the adventure equipment then or at any other time before, during or at the end of the school day.

Cloakroom pegs will not be used. Children must not bring anything with them to school other than the requested drink bottle, sun hat and lunchbox (if required).

They must then wash their hands for the recommended 20 seconds before returning to their classrooms.

Apart from a lunchbox, a drink and snacks, nothing else should be brought into or taken out of school. For examples, pencil cases, balls, collectibles, cuddly toys and notebooks must not be brought from home into school.

Stationery will be provided by the school. Each child will have frequently-used items such as pencils, pens, rulers and rubbers set out on their tables. They must not share this equipment with others.

2. Departure from school

As with arrival at school, children will be allocated a departure time and a nominated exit that they must use. Children will collect any belongings and depart via the external door at their designated time. Parents should be outside on the playground, socially distanced awaiting for their child at the allotted time. Parents should then leave the school site promptly.

3. Health and hand sanitising

Staff will require children to clean their hands with soap on arrival at school, after breaks, before and after eating, when they witness children cough, sneeze or touch their faces, and at the end of the school day. The children should try to avoid touching their face, avoid physical contact with others and not share equipment (unless this is done in a way that is agreed and supervised by the teacher). Hand sanitisers will be provided in every classroom for the children to use.

Teachers will ensure that all children know what effective handwashing is and monitor its implementation. Pupils must fully cooperate with this expectation.

Children must report to a responsible adult any symptoms of coronavirus that they might develop as soon as they sense them.

They will be taught that they should 'catch it in a tissue, bin it, kill it' should they sneeze or cough. Teachers will ensure easy access to tissues and a child must make every effort to grab a tissue if they feel a cough or sneeze is imminent. Children will be reminded not to touch their mouth, nose and eyes. They must do their best to avoid this happening and help one another by pointing out such instances. Should they forget (these are hard habits to break) they should wash their hands immediately.

4. Classroom organisation

Children will be allocated a table that will be theirs alone for the duration of the partial school opening. They must not sit anywhere else in the classroom. Staff will of course approach children closely if that is necessary which is why all of the cleaning measures are really important. Children must also avoid approaching other children or the teacher to help maintain social distancing rules.

All lessons, apart from PE, will take place in the classroom in order to minimise movement and contact with other children and adults, and to avoid contact with shared equipment. Music lessons, for example, will take place in the designated classroom not the studio.

5. Socialising

Pupils will be put into teaching groups of no more than 15. They must not have contact with children from another group of 15 at any time. They will remain in these groups for class-based lessons, during breaks, at lunchtime and for PE lessons. If a child should encounter a child from another group, for example when visiting the toilet, they must try to distance themselves to the best of their ability and not linger in order to chat to other children in such circumstances.

6. Movement around school (internal)

Although children will be kept separate from all other teaching groups whenever possible, there will be unplanned occasions when a child might come into contact with another child or adult. Instances will be rare and, where possible, one-way systems have been put in place to prevent this happening. Such occasions might occur when a child is going to the toilet. Should this occur, children will be asked to and expected to respect the social distancing rules adopted in the wider community. They should adhere to the two-metre distancing rule where possible and they should adhere to any rules relating to direction of movement around the school, such as: one-way routes; keeping to the left; not venturing into areas designated as out-of-bounds; using any markings on the floor to maintain a safe gap when queuing outside of a room. The children will be reminded of these rules on a regular basis, more frequently in the early days whilst they adapt to this new set of rules and expectations and will be expected to follow them consistently.

The children will be allocated a toilet to use. They must stick to that toilet and follow the route according to the school's rules for movement when inside the building.

7. Movement around school (outside)

Whenever the children are outdoors (whether it be at playtime, for PE or for outdoor lessons), the group of 15 children will be supervised and they will be required to stick to their group within one of the designated areas of the school grounds. The playground has been divided into 3 zones. The children will be told which zone they are to play or learn in and they must not venture into another group's zone. Play and lunchtimes have been staggered to create three time slots, with a five-minute interval between each one, to minimise contact between each small cohort of 15.

8. Sanctions

No sanctions will be applied until the children have had all of the new rules clearly explained to them. Some 'rules' such as not touching one's face will not be easy to follow given the habitual nature of such a reflex action. Others are firmly rooted in common sense. Allowances will be made for children who forget rules in the early days or for those who may struggle to retain the sheer amount of new information with which they will be showered at the beginning of their return to school.

Where a child transgresses (apart from the examples in section 9), they will be reminded or re-educated in the first instance. Should such transgressions recur to such an extent that the teacher is convinced that a child is wilfully ignoring these vital new rules, then the sanctions set out in the school's positive behaviour policy will apply. The senior members of staff will be present to support and help to re-educate on the reason the rule exists and the potential consequences of ignoring it.

9. More serious breaches of the school rules

We understand that this is an especially challenging time and support will be on offer to pupils. However, all children and staff have a right to a safe and calm environment so all pupils will be required to conform to whatever measures the school considered to be important to control the risks associated with coronavirus.

Any pupils who have not responded to earlier restorative interventions and who are deemed by the school to continue to be acting in a way which is not consistent with these measures may be asked to not return to school for a fixed period of time and instead offered learning opportunities that can be completed at home.