



Birches First School
Believe, Grow, Succeed



Behaviour Policy Addendum

Covid 19 Addendum to Main School Behaviour Policy June 2020

This is a COVID -19 addendum to the main school Behaviour Policy and should be read in conjunction with the main policy.

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019 remains in force and has been supplemented by additional interim guidance from the government titled **“Coronavirus (COVID-19): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers”** Published 27 March 2020. This should also be read in conjunction with this policy addendum.

This addendum is based on the additional interim guidance for COVID-19 operations.

1. Context

On 20th March 2020 parents were asked to keep their children at home, wherever possible, as part of the response to COVID-19. Schools and childcare providers were asked to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable, and children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

The way CMAT Schools are currently operating in response to coronavirus is fundamentally different, however, our safeguarding principles in accordance with ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ (KCSIE) 2019, remain the same:

- the best interests of children will always come first
- if anyone has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
- a DSL or deputy DSL is available
- unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children’s workforce and/or gain access to children
- children should continue to be protected when they are online

2. Behaviour Addendum Statement

Birches First School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all of its children and staff. The school will refer to the Government guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement social distancing and will continue to follow the advice from Public Health England on handwashing and other measures to limit the risk of spread of Covid-19.

Additional Health and Safety protocols have been established and all members of the school community are expected to adhere to these. The school will adopt a risk assessment approach for anyone who forgets or does not adopt our safety protocols with age appropriate sanctions where necessary.

Any pupil who commits serious or persistent breach of the new COVID-19 protection rules may be sanctioned by the headteacher using the full range of sanctions available, dependent on the seriousness of the breach, up to and including in extreme cases permanent exclusion.

3. Behaviour expectations

Children at Birches First School follow the Golden Rules. These will continue to form the basis of our behaviour expectations. However, in order to protect the safety of all children and staff, the additional rules will be shared with children and introduced.

Keeping Us Safe – New School Rules.

These rules are important to keep me, my friends and my teachers safe.

I will continue to follow our Golden Rules.

I will listen to my adult and follow their instructions carefully.

I will give my adults and friends lots of room and try to follow the '2' metre' rule when I am told.

I will follow the markers when I see them and wait until there is a safe space before moving forward.

I will look after and only touch my own equipment.

I will sit and remain at my desk when told to do so.

I will keep my things tidy on or under my desk to keep the area safe.

I will wash my hands often, using soap and water. I will dry my hands carefully using a paper towel.

I will use a tissue to 'catch' my sneezes and coughs, putting it carefully in the correct bin (or, 'catch' sneezes and coughs into my elbow).

I will keep my hands and fingers out of my mouth.

When going out to play I will stay within the area I am told to.

I will stay within my room and with the children and adults I work with.

I will help my friends to make sure we keep each other safe.

I will remember to keep a safe distance from other children and families when I am walking into and out of school.

I will stay with my grown-ups when walking into and out of school.

I will not bring things from home – only my lunch and water bottle.

I will eat my dinner safely and sensibly.

I will only go to the toilet when I need to and know I may have to wait until it is empty before I can go in. I will always tell a grown up if I need to go.

I will choose a sensible game that allows me to play without touching others or getting too close.

If we all follow these rules we can enjoy school safely with one another. We will need to remind ourselves of these rules a lot to start with to help us to follow them properly.

If we cannot follow these rules, our teachers may need to talk to our parents and we might not be able to come to school at the moment. We have to help one another to stay safe.

NB this is the full set of school rules which will be simplified, where needed conveyed verbally (Nursery children cannot refer to them or read) and adapted to children's age and stage.

On the first day of return (and regularly thereafter) staff should discuss and agree the rules with the children. An understanding of shared responsibility should be promoted encouraging children to support each other in keeping themselves and others safe.

(These rules have been developed in discussion with all staff and are subject to review, particularly once children have returned to school.)

4. Rewards

Children will be given verbal praise and encouragement for making the correct choices.

Staff will send home an email / text for particular praise.

Groups may continue to select a 'Gold Star' / award merit certificate (emailed home) for good behaviour during the week.

As a group, children can earn points/items in a (virtual) jar/DOJOs, building to a suitable reward (film, squash and biscuits?)

4. Sanctions

Where children do not follow the behaviour expectations above they should always be given support to understand their actions and the importance of their behaviour in keeping others safe.

Our behaviour system of verbal reminder, verbal warning, recorded warning, yellow card and red card will still be followed.

Children who are not following the rules may be asked to have time out during play time (within their bubble) as a consequence.

Red cards should be logged on CPOMS and parents informed (telephone call or email.)

Where a child is unable to follow the new rules a discussion should take place between staff and parents (and child where appropriate) which may result in the school requesting that the child is taken home. This is necessary to ensure that we are able to maintain the integrity of our risk management procedures that are required to keep all members of the school community (including the child in question) safe.

Birches First School has an Exclusions Policy which will continue to be relevant for cases of significant/ongoing unacceptable behaviour.

This policy addendum will be shared with parents of children attending school from **Monday 8th June** as part of a Home – School Partnership Agreement. Parents sending their child into school will thereby be agreeing to support their child and the school in ensuring the safety of all by promoting these rules and actions.

5. Code of Conduct / Expectations for Parents

In order to support the maintenance of the highest level of risk management, parents agree;

That only one adult per family will enter the site at a time.

Siblings (if not attending school) will only accompany parents if it is unavoidable. If at all possible they should remain at home.

To follow the guidance and observe 2 metre social distancing at all times (clearly marked at all points around the site.) Whilst we are not responsible for parent conduct beyond the school gates, we politely ask that parents continue to observe socially distancing measures when walking to and away from the school site.

To arrive promptly at their child's designated arrival / collection time to ensure staff are able to maintain a smooth flow of people through the site at these times.

To promote independence in their child and encourage them to separate from their parent on their own and make their way to the entrance door. (Please note that if a parent is unable to encourage their child into school, they will unfortunately have to be taken home. Staff will give verbal support and encouragement but are not able to physically support a child to bring them into class.)

To ensure their child has their lunchbox (if needed), water bottle, coat /sunhat (weather dependent) on or in their hand to carry into class themselves. (Staff are not able to carry items for the children and parents are not allowed to enter the school building.)

To understand that staff are unable to discuss matters in person at the start or end of the day. Should any parent wish to speak to staff about their child they are welcome to email or telephone.

To contact the school office via telephone or email with any enquires so as to avoid unnecessary contact with the school office.

To collect their child immediately should school inform them that either

- their child is displaying symptoms and has been placed into isolation
- Or
- a member of staff or child with whom their child has had contact has tested positive for COVID-19

To keep their child at home in line with the requirements for self-isolation should they, a household member or a child or member of staff in their 'bubble' test positive for COVID-19. (See Attendance Policy Addendum)

To be patient (there may be times parents are required to wait) and respectfully support the school in its efforts to keep all members of the school community safe.