



Addendum to the Behaviour Policy – COVID-19

September 2020

The Governing Body of Ermysted's Grammar School (the 'School') ratified this policy on 7 September 2020. This addendum takes effect immediately, and will remain in place until further notice.

Rationale

The following amendments are to reflect the protective measures in place and will supplement the current School Behaviour Policy (a copy of which can be found on www.ermysteds.co.uk).

The primary reason for the actions below are to ensure the safety of all members of the school community during the coronavirus pandemic.

Pupil expectations

- Upon arrival at school pupils must wash their hands using the facilities in the Quad.
- Pupils must ensure strict social distancing by keeping a safe distance from those outside their bubble and should distance themselves from those within their bubble whenever and wherever possible.
- Everyone must follow the one-way system when moving around the site.
- Hands must be sanitised on entering and leaving a classroom.
- During morning break and lunchtime pupils must only congregate in their designated zone and use the toilet block assigned to their year group.
- Pupils should not enter classrooms outside of their zone unless to attend a timetabled lesson or to comply with an instruction from a member of staff. In particular, pupils must only stand in the zone assigned to their year group in the bus waiting area.
- Pupils are asked to minimise the items they bring to school but ensure they have all necessary equipment with them.
- A colour-coded lanyard will be issued to each pupil and this must be worn at all times whilst on the school site. Pupils should use the lanyard to carry their student identification card.
- Pupils must wear a face covering when moving inside school buildings from one lesson to the next.
- Pupils should avoid physical contact with other people. This includes, but is not limited to, handshakes, hugging, and general horseplay.
- Pupils must tell a member of staff if they feel unwell, especially if they are suffering from a high temperature, a new continuous cough or loss or change to their sense of smell or taste.
- Pupils must not share personal belongings, such as stationery, with other pupils.
- Due to the installation of the sinks, ball games are not allowed in the Quad.

In addition to the above, there is an expectation that pupils will support their school community to ensure that learning takes places effectively within the increased constraints posed by the current situation.

It should be noted that the government requires pupils over the age of 11 to wear face coverings on public transport and is recommending the same for those pupils traveling on school buses.

Attendance

Attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from the start of the new school year, except where statutory exemptions apply. Anyone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or has tested positive in at least the last 10 days, should not attend school. This also applies to anyone who has someone in their household who has tested positive for coronavirus or become symptomatic in the last 14 days. For pupils who are self-isolating, education will continue remotely.

Parents should let the School know if their child is unable to attend and the reason for the absence. The School will build a strong relationship and keep an open dialogue with parents who need further information or reassurance on the importance and/or safety of returning to school.

Managing Behaviour

Class Charts will be used to record all positive and negative behaviours. For pupils who are actively embracing the protective measures a specific positive will be awarded on Class Charts to promote and encourage this desirable behaviour.

Staff are encouraged to use a range of positive classroom and behaviour management strategies to minimise the need for sanctions. There are occasions, however, when staff will need to challenge behaviours which are not safe or not conducive to learning.

In particular, deliberate failure to adhere to the protective measures will be deemed as a serious breach of the School's Behaviour Policy. The School will not accept any behaviour that is in breach of the protective measures or otherwise endangers members of the school community. Such unacceptable behaviours include, but are not limited to, failing to follow the one-way system, not adhering to social distancing guidance, and spitting or purposefully coughing (imitating or otherwise) towards any other person. Deliberate acts and repeated offences will be dealt with as higher level behaviours. Acts that are not deemed to be deliberate, will be dealt with as lower level behaviours. Appropriate sanctions will be issued in line with the School's Behaviour Policy.

Review

School leaders will review the content and arrangements detailed in this addendum on a regular basis. Any updates will reflect new guidance when it is released by the government.