

Rochford Primary and Nursery School (Academy)



Behaviour & Discipline Policy

(COVID-19 Supplement)

(to be read in conjunction with the Behaviour & Discipline and Exclusion Policies)



Behaviour & Discipline Policy (COVID-19 Supplement)

Vision Statement:

“Inspiring lifelong learning”

We are committed to providing:

- inspirational teaching;
- a stimulating environment;
- a challenging and interesting curriculum, so that children learn a variety of skills and are inspired to develop a love of learning; and
- a happy, safe and caring school where:
 - every child can reach their full potential
 - staff are valued
 - visitors feel welcome.

We are committed to developing an inclusive school at the heart of the Rochford Community where:

- every child’s happiness and needs are of great importance;
- where there are high expectations of good behaviour; and
- where all members of the school community value good manners and co-operation.

We are committed to:

- communicating and working effectively with parents so that there is a genuine partnership supporting children’s learning.

The principles set out in our Behaviour & Discipline Policy remain and should continue to be followed. This addendum should not be used as a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with the existing policy. It sets out the expectations of Rochford Primary & Nursery School in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for children to behave differently when they return to school. It describes the new systems in place and how pupils will be supported to adhere to them.

This addendum follows the advice and guidelines issued by the Department for Education (DfE).

- Parents and children are to follow the new system for dropping off and collecting from school: only one adult to accompany child, wait at car park gates until a member of staff directs you to enter the car park and use one-way system to exit the car park.
- Children should keep their distance from adults and children from outside their bubble wherever possible.
- Children must sanitise hands upon entering the classroom and then wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds each time throughout the day.
- Children must follow instructions on who they can socialize with at school, staying in their bubble.
- Children must move around the school as directed, using the signs to help them.
- Children must try to follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' campaign by sneezing or coughing into tissues and disposing of safely. They also should try to avoid touching their mouth, nose and eyes with their hands.
- Children must tell an adult if they are experiencing any symptoms of coronavirus.
- Children must use only their own water bottles and equipment.
- Children must only play in areas specified, which will not include The Disco for the time being.
- If any child deliberately coughs or spits at or towards any other person, they will be sent home immediately.
- Children learning from home (following self-isolation guidelines) will follow our online safety rules.
- Whilst we may not be able to hand out our Brilliant Blue Box raffle tokens, teachers will continue to recognize and praise the excellent behaviours the children will demonstrate.
- If a child is finding it hard to follow these rules, the teacher, or other member of the bubble staff, will talk to the pupil individually to check their wellbeing and re-inforce the importance of the rules in keeping everyone safe.

All pupils will be supported in the following ways:

- Throughout the school there will be posters/signs/visual prompts to remind pupils and staff of the new safety measures in place that should be followed.
- All adults will explain new routines sensitively and help pupils to feel safe and reassured by the adaptations in place.
- The new routines and expectations will be explained and repeated by the pupils' teachers every day and throughout the day for the first few weeks. This will reassure all pupils and particularly the more anxious.
- All adults will explain hygiene rules sensitively and provide gentle reminders throughout the day.
- Whilst new expectations are established during Learning to Learn Week, we will focus on routines, safety and well-being rather than academic challenge.
- An age appropriate strategy for pupils to share their concerns e.g. a worry box, will be available in every group so that pupils' concerns can be heard and responded to every day where necessary.
- School staff will pay particular regard to families and pupils who are classified as clinically vulnerable so that appropriate additional support is in place to reduce anxiety as appropriate to the circumstances.
- All our usual systems for affirming our pupils' good behaviours will continue, with a particular focus on our Rochford Values and 'staying alert' and 'be kind' behaviours.
- For pupils who are not managing for any reason to follow our school expectations, we will follow our Good 2 Be Green strategy where they will receive reminders and warnings to help them identify what the expectations are. We will communicate with parents to ensure there is a whole team and empathetic approach.
- If, despite all appropriate support and guidance, a pupil repeatedly breaks our current safety rules, the Headteacher may, as a last resort, consider alternative arrangements or exclude the pupil for either a fixed period or permanently in line with our Exclusions Policy.

Support for pupils who have additional or special educational needs:

- Pupils will have their individual risk assessment reviewed in light of the new circumstances.

- If there are concerns that appropriate support is not possible during this period, despite our best endeavours, a meeting will be held with parents (and relevant external professionals) to discuss next steps and what additional adaptations may be possible to ensure the pupil can manage his/her behavior safely.

Physical Intervention (Team Teach)

There may be times when a pupils' behavior requires staff to use physical intervention to ensure the pupils' own safety, the safety of other pupils and staff, or that property is not seriously damaged. Rochford Primary & Nursery School will be guided by the following principles in these circumstances:

- Given the current pandemic, staff will also need to consider the possible risk of infection if they physically intervene, contrasted with the possible risks of infection should they not intervene.
- Any decisions made should be in accordance with Public Health England and Government guidelines on COVID-19.
- Advice remains firmly focused on restraint reduction. The emphasis is on de-escalation, reducing triggers and early interventions to manage risk.
- When deciding to use restrictive interventions, any such restriction must be a last resort, reasonable and proportionate action.
- Staff need to ensure their decisions consider the risks of doing something contrasted with the risks of doing nothing.
- Schools should continue to explore non-restrictive alternatives that maximize safety and minimize harm at the point of risk behavior.
- At the heart of all decisions is our desire to maintain the care, welfare, safety and security of everyone, staff and pupils alike.

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