**Behaviour and exclusions from school during COVID-19  
Behaviour Policy addendum- May 2020**

From March 2020, the global Covid-19 pandemic has led to a change in how we define some of our children’s behaviours in school and our assessment as to whether these are difficult or dangerous, particularly where a child or young person’s behaviours could cause an increased risk to their own health or the health of others.

Examples of this might include (but are not limited to):

* spitting
* repeated disregard of social distancing rules
* not staying in their class bubble

We will work together with the child & parents/carers to carry out a risk assessment which will explore whether a child can manage in the school environment, under current circumstances. In exceptional circumstances, the outcomes of the risk assessment may mean we are unable to offer a place in school, at this time. I

f a child is unable to manage within the safety rules to minimize Covid-19 risk, then an offer of a school place may be removed until a new plan and phased return can be implemented that ensures the current guidance can be adhered to. In all cases, the child’s Risk Assessment and plan will be regularly reviewed and the school will work with the family to ensure support to the child is provided in other ways, through reasonable endeavours.

The school will follow DfE guidance regarding behaviour and exclusions <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing#behaviour-and-exclusions> **(last updated on 18th May 2020**) if needing to address matters relating specifically to the exclusion of pupils.

Behaviour and exclusions is mentioned in several pieces of guidance provided by the DfE since March 2020. For example, in the “Planning Guide for Primary Schools” (updated 25th May 2020), the DfE shares the following principles and areas to be considered for addition to a setting or school behaviour policy, in the form of a helpful reference list**:**

**Behaviour Principles**

In light of the need for children to behave differently when they return to school, and respond to any new systems put in place, we have put in place some additional expectations of pupils returning to school after 1.6.20 after Covid-19 lockdown:-

* following any altered routines for arrival or departure
* following school instructions on hygiene, such as handwashing and sanitising
* following instructions on who they can socialise with at school
* moving around the school as per specific instructions (for example, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, queuing)
* following expectations about sneezing, coughing, tissues and disposal (‘catch it, bin it, kill it’) and avoiding touching their mouth, nose and eyes with hands
* telling an adult if they are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus
* following rules about sharing any equipment or other items
* following instructions for breaks or play times, including where children may or may not play
* following instructions for use of toilets
* avoiding coughing or spitting at or towards any other person

For pupils at home and in school after 1.6.20, the school also considers it reasonable to expect all pupils to show courtesy and respect in their conduct in relation to remote education and to ensure all material posted is polite in content, makes safe use of equipment, and does not divulge personal information about themselves in line with our acceptable use policy.

Adopted by Governors: 29.5.20  
  
To be reviewed: on or before 1.9.20