

Addendum 1
COVID-19 school reopening arrangements for
Behaviour & Discipline at Lawnside Academy



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Context

On 10th May 2020, the Prime Minister announced the Government's intention to start to reopen schools using a phased approach on 1st June 2020; if the Government's tests are met.

This means that children in Reception and Year 1 will have the opportunity to return to Lawnside Academy, and priority children will continue to have a place as part of a provision of childcare.

In light of the need for children to behave differently when they return to school, and any new systems which have been put into place to support this return, changes to the behaviour policy have been necessary. This addendum to Lawnside's Behaviour Policy and Statement of Behaviour Principles will also need to be communicated to pupils, parents and staff.

Rules

The existing rules for Lawnside Academy will continue to apply through the phased reopening of school.

These are:

- Readiness
- Respect
- Responsibility

The rule of Responsibility will be of particular pertinence and most behaviour policy infringements related to children keeping themselves and others safe can be addressed by reminding children of this rule and applying it to the specific incident. Any parent contact mentioned below will be conducted remotely in all but exceptional circumstances.

If not mentioned below, the existing Behaviour Policy and Statement of Behaviour Principles will apply, including during periods of remote learning.

Government guidance

Specifically, the Department for Education has provided guidance which suggests that schools make the following additions to their behaviour policy

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools#annex-a-behaviour-principles>

- following any altered routines for arrival or departure
- following school instructions on hygiene, such as handwashing and sanitising
- following instructions on who pupils can socialise with at school
- moving around the school as per specific instructions (for example, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, queuing)
- expectations about sneezing, coughing, tissues and disposal ('catch it, bin it, kill it') and avoiding touching your mouth, nose and eyes with hands
- tell an adult if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus
- rules about sharing any equipment or other items including drinking bottles
- amended expectations about breaks or play times, including where children may or may not play
- use of toilets
- clear rules about coughing or spitting at or towards any other person
- clear rules for pupils at home about conduct in relation to remote education
- rewards and sanction system where appropriate

Recognising positive behaviour

Some existing systems of rewarding good behaviour may need to be amended to follow good social distancing practice. This will include pupils not coming into physical contact with stickers, certificates etc. Where appropriate, a named member of staff will place effort stickers onto children's charts. Other forms of praise and celebration can be implemented through weekly newsletters and emails to parents.

Responding to negative choices

The school will make the aforementioned systems of keeping staff and pupils safe very clear to children and parents at the start of the school's phased reopening. The importance of these systems will be explained to the children through teaching sessions and through daily interactions / reminders with them.

Pupils who fail to follow the new school systems of social distancing, group isolation, sharing of resources etc. will be reminded in the first instance of the reason for the system and will be given a warning, if this continues, more specific teaching for the child could be implemented e.g. at breaktime. If a child continues to fail to follow protective measures, increasingly significant steps will be taken to reinforce the new systems e.g. the child speaking to the duty member of SLT, conversations with parents/carers. Conversations with SLT should be requested by staff during breaktimes or during lessons in very serious cases.

Children should be used to convey ICE cards (In Case of Emergency) in none but exceptional circumstances where no alternatives are available.

If a child makes a deliberate choice to assault an adult or child (including through coughing, spitting and physical assault), they will receive one warning, they will be isolated from their group to work elsewhere in school and their parent/carer will be informed. **See note in bold below however in response to a serious or persistent breach of the new COVID-19 protection rules.** The child's temporary work space will be cleaned thoroughly before being used by another child. If the child were to repeat this offence, the offer of a place at school could be withdrawn/a fixed term exclusion could be used. This decision is the responsibility of the Head Teacher.

The severity and inflexibility of these sanctions reflect the potential consequences of not following government social distancing and hygiene guidelines. Lawnside Academy takes its responsibility for the safety of staff and pupils, and the contribution that it must make to the safety of our local community, very seriously.

All sanctions related to other infringements of the school's rules remain appropriate as outlined in the main Behaviour Policy and Statement of Behaviour Principles.

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

Any reasonable adjustments and/or risk assessments that need to be made for children with more challenging behaviour will be drawn up in consultation with their parents / carers before they return to school.

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