



Newsome High School

Behaviour and Assertive Discipline Policy: COVID-19 addendum

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Prepared by	J Hinchliffe and S Mitchell
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Reviewed by	J Hinchliffe and D Watkin

School	Newsome High School
Headteacher	Mr D Watkin

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1. Introduction

1.1 Following schools being closed to the majority of students, the Department for Education have announced a phased-re-opening of Secondary Schools starting with the introduction of face-to-face sessions delivered to Year 10 students with guidance on re-opening for other year groups to follow.

1.2 Strategy for Y10 Students before Summer Holidays

Personal phone calls home have been made by Team Leaders (Tutors) for every Year 10 student. These calls allowed for discussions around student progress, covering academic issues for each subject and any wellbeing support needed.

Additional phone calls have been made by subject staff to support subject-specific issues.

Based on these calls and the information we have gathered, selected Year 10 students will be invited into school to attend individual 'Academic Progress Meetings' to discuss concerns and set any particular targets/support needed - as per above. Any students with wellbeing issues will also have 'Coaching Sessions' with the Wellbeing Team.

It must be noted that your child has a responsibility to ensure they are engaging with the work currently being set and initiating any communication if they are having issues.

Work will continue to be set remotely for Year 10 students including those that have pre-arranged work packs.

1.3 Strategy for all other students (Y7,Y8,Y9) before Summer Holidays

The school will remain open to vulnerable children and those of key workers as normal and as per pre-arranged discussions.

It must be noted that your child has a responsibility to ensure they are engaging with the work currently being set and initiating any communication if they are having issues.

Work will continue to be set remotely for students including those that have pre-arranged work packs.

1.4 This appendix to the Behaviour Policy details adaptations made during the reintegration of students from September 2020 rather than providing the typical school day experienced up to March 2020.

1.5 This policy appendix is guided by the Department for Education Guidance released throughout May 2020 regarding the reopening of schools and other education establishments.

1.6 This policy appendix is specifically intended to:

- ensure the safety of every member of staff and student during this time
- encourage young people to take responsibility for their behaviour during this time
- tackle incidents/instances of poor behaviour effectively and fairly during this time
- allow staff to feel safe and supported during this time
- foster an environment where all members of the school community respect and adhere to the social distancing guidance during this time

1.7 The information in this policy will be communicated:

- to students – in the first session held on students' first day of face-to-face sessions with Team Leaders and on the the school's website

- to teachers – via email
- to parents/carers – on the school’s website and via email

2. What we expect students to do during this time

2.1 Students must only use the student entrance they have been assigned to enter the school building.

2.2 Students must sanitise their hands on entering the school building.

2.3 Students must walk directly to the classroom they have been assigned. Students are not permitted to move around the building freely or open any closed doors.

2.4 Students must sanitise their hands on entering the classroom.

2.5 Students must walk directly to their assigned desk. Students must only sit at their assigned desk. Students must not touch any desk assigned to another student/teacher or any equipment on a desk assigned to another student/teacher.

2.6 Students must not share personal equipment. Loaned equipment will be sanitised between use.

2.7 Students must not attempt to make physical contact with any person.

2.8 Students must not attempt to deliberately move within the designated distance as per government guidelines (e.g. 2 metres) of any person. Students must strictly adhere to marked out areas such as those for queuing, waiting and one-way systems.

2.9 Students must not deliberately and unnecessarily perform actions associated with symptoms of Covid-19, for example but not limited to, coughing and/or sneezing. Chewing gum is banned and may be confiscated and disposed of if brought onto the school site.

2.10 Students must follow the government guidance ‘Catch it, bin it kill it!’ when needing to cough or sneeze by covering their mouth and nose with a tissue or coughing or sneezing into their arm, disposing of the tissue in a bin and washing or sanitising their hands afterwards.

2.11 Due to the movement of teachers and staff, rather than students, between classrooms, there may be short periods of time where students will be unaccompanied. Students must continue to meet the expectations that have been detailed and explained to them during these times.

3. What we expect our teachers to do during this time

3.1 We expect all our teachers to address any behaviour that is unacceptable, who breaks our school rules or who doesn’t follow a reasonable instruction.

3.2 Teachers will address poor behaviour by following the usual AD policy expectations with a verbal warning, C1, C2, C3 etc.

3.3 Where the behaviour of a student makes us worried that they are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm, we expect our staff to follow our safeguarding policy.

4. The actions we may take when a student misbehaves during this time

4.1 Any student that cannot cooperate with our expectations will be directed to return home (parents will be informed of this) and will continue with home-learning until further notice. This period will be for at least 5 school days, but will last until the Headteacher decides they can return to face-to-face sessions.

4.2 Any student that displays behaviours that demonstrate they are not willing to cooperate with us in maintaining a safe environment will be deemed to have committed a serious breach of the school's behaviour policy and therefore an additional sanction, may be considered.

4.3 The following are some examples of what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour (additional to the list in the Behaviour Policy) specific to the context of the phased return delivery of face-to-face sessions, blended learning though the list is not exhaustive:

- refusing to sanitise hands
- not moving directly to the allocated classroom
- deliberately making contact, or attempting to make contact, with another person
- deliberately moving within 2 meters, or attempting to move within 2 meters, of another person
- deliberately and unnecessarily performing actions associated with symptoms of Covid-19, for example but not limited to, coughing and/or sneezing
- not attempting to cover the nose and mouth with a tissue or arm when coughing and/or sneezing

All incidents are also subject to SLT discretion.

5. Behaviour outside the school during this time

5.1 Students must not congregate in groups with others beyond their household before or after school in accordance with the latest government guidelines.

5.2 Students must leave the school site when directed and once through the gate make their way directly to their home.

5.3 Failure to follow these instructions outside of school during this time may result in the student being directed to complete home-learning until further notice and not return for face-to-face sessions. Parents will be contacted to inform them of this.

6. Access to toilets and break time

6.1 There is a queuing system in place for the toilets adhering to the most recent guidelines.

6.2 Students will not be allowed out of class (during lesson) to use the toilet, except in an emergency. There will be additional toileting facilities open during social times.

6.3 During break time, students will be allowed to leave the class but must still adhere to social distancing rules.

7. Face coverings

7.1 The school will adopt the use of a personal face covering for the mouth and nose. They should not be offensive in any way (determined solely by school) and they must be worn as per the school instructions provided at the time. If a student arrives at school without an appropriate face covering, the school will provide one to be used for that school day. Face coverings are the responsibility of each individual student and should be treated as part of their standard school uniform.

8. Rewards and Sanctions

8.1 Our system for rewarding and recognising those students who perform well in both classroom and social settings remains intact and we expect to see a high number of our students continue to gain their RITA reward badges.

8.2 If a student receives a C3 during a lesson, they will be removed from the lesson and continue their work with their BFL for the remainder of that lesson.

8.3 If a student receives two C3s in a day, their parent/guardian will be contacted and the student will incur a 30 minute detention with their BFL the following day from 3-3:30pm.

8.4 If a student receives three C3s in a day, they will face a significant sanction up to and including a fixed term exclusion.