



# **MATRAVERS SCHOOL**

## **COVID-19 Behaviour Policy:**

### **Adapted measures for ensuring safety of students and staff**

*“Looking after each other”*

#### **Amendments to established policy**

The adaptations to policy is in keeping with the guidance sanctioned by the DfE at time of publishing. Matarvers School reserves the right to further adapt the policy, without consultation or policy re-write, to best protect stakeholders.

Where there are numbers following the letter P (e.g. P9) they reflect amendments or additions to the current behaviour policy.

#### **Purpose**

This policy is not a standalone policy, nor does it cover all operational aspects of school life. This policy supplements the published Behaviour for learning policy. As a reaction to the threat of the COVID-19 virus this guidance outlines additional steps to ensure the safety of all school stakeholders. This policy will also serve as updated guidance to the attendance, registration, first aid, and medical procedures. It covers all aspects of behaviour, inclusive of habits.

#### **Mantra**

These steps are being implemented to enable us to open and educate safely. All actions and dictions made in planning or in the moment will reflect this; we are *looking after each other*. Our message of unity, working together for the combined benefit of all, will be shared with all stakeholders for them to understand how serious we are taking the threat to welfare and life and reassure those entering site that it's our desire to mitigate risk.

#### ***Steps adopted to support the safety of all***

##### **A: Hygiene and reducing risk**

The best way to reduce contagion spread within a setting is to:

- Have effective sterilisation equipment and tissues readily available.
- Establish the importance of clear routines of hand washing, frequently and thoroughly. To this extent, staff members will encourage and monitor students washing hands, entering and exiting the site, following a cough or sneeze, before and after eating and using the toilet or any other time directed.
- Educate students how they can reduce the risk: Clear signage and use of common slogans such as catch it, bin it, kill it will become common language amongst staff and students.
- Establish the practice of repeating important messages to students.

## **B: Conduct on site and rules about coughing or spitting at or towards any other person (P8.0)**

In adopting our new mantra (“looking after each other”) all our energies will focus on supporting students feel safe on site and promote good behaviour as a mechanism for reducing risk. Using positive reinforcement and emotionally intelligent language to support students understand the significance of their actions. There will be explicitly clear rules surrounding the intentional coughing or spitting towards any other person, this is not only a health risk but an indicator that the individual doesn’t understand the severity of their actions which will potentially make other students anxious and feel unsafe, effecting their educational experience.

Any student, or event, where the rules put in place to keep one another safe are suspected of being broken, will be investigated and treated on a case by case basis. Behaviours, aside from the purposeful spread of the bodily fluids, are not limited to but could include:

- Failure to sit in their designated space.
- The refusal to follow social distancing or instructions asked by staff with the intent of keeping each other safe.
- Disruption to learning
- Entering spaces designated for the use of other groups of students.

## **C: Sanction and reward systems (P8.0, P9.0, P10)**

Where students do not meet our expectations and act in a way which compromises; the safety of other stakeholders, the learning of other students, the authority of staff members, they will have interventions which reflect the severity of the situation. We will communicate all issues with parents and welcome full parental support and engagement when challenging unsatisfactory behaviours. We will issue sanctions in accordance with the existing behaviour policy.

We will continue to reward students in line with our policy, which includes a range of strategies, which re-enforces and supports excellent behaviour and efforts to learning.

In the event of significant infringements, Matravers School reserves the right for the headteacher to exclude individual students. The school will follow all procedures in accordance to the temporary changes to exclusion guidance set out by the Department of Education on May 29 2020.

## **D: Movement around school (P11.0)**

The school will issue clear guidelines on how and when students should move around the school site. At all times we will promote social distancing and embed staff and student behaviours that routinely remind students of their responsibilities.

The school will timetable breaks, lessons, lunch times and activities so the chance of bubbles of students coming in contact and the potential spread of the contagion is reduced. The planned contact between staff and groups of students has been done to minimise the

moment around school There will be consequences for students that take it upon themselves to purposefully enter areas they have been asked to stay away from, by doing this they are failing to protect themselves and others.

### **E: Medical provision**

For students on site, our standard policy will be followed. Should we believe or have a concern that a child is displaying symptoms of COVID-`19 we will act to remove the student from the group as a matter of urgency and be placed in a specified area. We will follow the up to date guidance distributed from the government to inform the parent in requesting isolation, testing or tracing. Our approach will be non-discriminately cautious, to ensure the highest level of care for all. This will be carefully explained to all students and parents where we have concerns over their health.

Students will be encouraged and educated to raise a concern if they feel symptomatic. The school will promote positive reinforcement for student transparency and maintain a supportive stance at all times, helping to reduce the anxiety of the child concerned and those in proximity.

### **F: Altered routines for arrival or departure (P10)**

All students will be carefully communicated to regarding the times they are to arrive and leave the school site. These will be staggered times to ensure the minimum number of stakeholders entering and leaving via constricted spaces. These measures will be explained to all students and there will be further support available at critical times. We expect all students to follow the producers explained to them, as outlined in our risk assessment.

We will promote good punctuality and explain carefully to students the significance of this. Matrovers will not sanction for punctuality. In keeping with the policy amendments, we will positively re-enforce reasons why these behaviours could have a negative impact on our community.

### **G: Uniform (P13)**

Students are expected to wear school uniform in accordance to our uniform policy, prescribed by the governing body. We will promote the importance of wearing clean clothes, through regular washing, reducing the potential for spreading the virus.

### **H: Remote Learning (P15)**

In the instance of further school closure we will resume remote teaching. When not attending school pupils are expected to conduct themselves appropriately on line and in all communications. Matrovers school will use its Office 356 suite (mainly Outlook and Teams) to communicate to pupils and the established homework platform of Classcharts for setting study tasks. There should be no communication between professionals and pupils outside these platforms.

In the event of unacceptable conduct online the school will exercise the full range of options available. These include; denying access to online school platforms or, where there is

evidence of online abuse, reporting incidents to the police under the Malicious Communications Act.

Pupils should:

- Complete work set online to the set deadline.
- Use proper online conduct such as using appropriate language in messages and forms of address to professionals.
- Only use school platforms for learning related communication.
- Avoid republishing online any Matravers School content without consent. This includes any recordings of professionals or other pupils.

### **Student use of protective masks:**

We recognise some pupils will want to wear masks to protect themselves at times of heightened risk. We will support students wearing protective masks; in transition around the school, in social environments and whilst in changing rooms.

It is the responsibility of the parent and pupil to learn how to wear the mask effectively. This training should include the safe storage of masks and sanitising following usage. All masks must be worn appropriately and should be plain or with an inoffensive pattern.

The compulsory use of face masks will be reviewed in the event of a local lockdown, Matravers School will follow the advice and guidance of the local authority and Department for Education.

### **Monitoring Arrangements**

We will review this policy in conjunction with updated guidance local authority or Department for Education. At every review, it will be approved by the governing board.

### **Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Behaviour Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Students with medical needs policy

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