



Hiltingbury Infant School Amendment to Behaviour Policy- COVID 19; May 2020

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

From June 1st, it will be necessary for Hiltingbury Infants to implement its phased return plan. In so doing, the school will have to make significant changes to the way it operates. This is necessary in order to safely manage increased numbers of children in school, whilst also following social distancing guidelines. Although there are significant changes ahead, the schools behaviour principles remain the same:

OUR PRINCIPLES

*It is the right of every member of our community to feel **safe** and happy. Therefore, it is the responsibility of every member of Hiltingbury Infant school to ensure that they **treat each other with respect** and in a positive way.* These principles remain significantly important and must continue to be followed by all adults and children. However, it is important to acknowledge and understand, that how to keep safe and how to treat others with respect will be different. To support children in understanding the new requirements of our plan, a set of principles have been developed which will be shared with all members of our community.

Hiltingbury Infants recognises that any changes in the way school operates could be unsettling for children and adjusting to change takes time. Change can trigger feelings of anxiety, fear and worry, and these emotions may be expressed inappropriately by children who cannot yet make sense of them. Adults will respect that children need time to adapt to the changes in school, they will ensure that the PSHE curriculum focuses on what is expected of children and what is not. They will support children to manage their emotions related to change and will continue to deal with incidents of poor behaviour in line with the school's behaviour policy.

It has been necessary to make some amendments to our behaviour policy because we are expecting children to follow new guidelines. These guidelines have been developed in an endeavour to keep all members of our community safe and where possible, protected.

OUR BEHAVIOUR PRINCIPLES

Arrival and Departure

Arrival and departure at school will now be staggered until further notice. This supports Parents in socially distancing on the school site and reduces the number of adults in a confined space. Children have been divided into groups with allocated timings for drop offs and collections:

Cherry and Blue groups- 8:45 to 2:45

Apple and yellow groups- 9:00 to 3:00

Plum and red groups- 9.15 to 3.15

It is essential that Parents adhere to the timings they have been allocated and that children understand the importance of arriving at school promptly, within their allocated slot each day. Children will be supported to understand that it is their responsibility to ensure they get up early, get ready for school timely, and co-operate with instructions, so that we all play a part in keeping everyone safe.

We recognise that as children arrive, some need physical support to part from their Parents if they are distressed or worried. Parents will be asked to support their child to come into school without the assistance of school staff and without coming into the classrooms themselves. Whilst we understand that this may be hard, physical contact between children and school staff must be kept to a minimum and used in emergency situations only.

At the end of the school day, staff dismissing the children will ensure they do so on time, so Parents are not left waiting for children. Children will work with their Teachers to ensure they are organised and ready to go home when their school day finishes. Children will depart at different times and this may be unsettling for children who are used to a fixed end of day routine. Timetables and social stories will be used to support children who struggle to comprehend why these arrangements are different.

Hand Hygiene

All adults, visitors and children will be expected to wash their hands on arrival at school, during the school day and when they depart. Handwashing will be far more frequent than usual, and for at least 20 seconds. Everyone must wash their hands after; handling objects, touching surfaces, using the toilet, touching their face, after coughing, sneezing, or wiping their nose, before eating and when they have been outside.

We recognise that young children will need to be reminded of these rules and for these reasons, handwashing will be supervised, and hand washing facilities will be in each bubble base, to ensure ease of access to warm running water, soap and single use paper towels.

In the unusual event that handwashing with soap and water is not available, all adults and children will be expected to sanitise their hands with gel 70% and above.

Socialising

We recognise that seeing your friends and colleagues at school is a significant and enjoyable part of school life and for most, the new socialising arrangements will take time to adapt to. Children will be taught that they can only mix with the children and adults in their bubble because it is safe to do so. Any mixing with other children and other adults is not safe because it increases the risk of transmission of infection to others, and therefore is not permitted; unless it is an emergency*.

All adults supervising bubbles will adhere to these regulations and will remind children of where they can and cannot play. All bubble areas will be supervised by adults at all times and therefore the risk of bubbles mixing is low.

**Emergency is deemed as a safeguarding concern or a risk to a child's health or well-being.*

Movement around school

There will be a one way system in place which everyone must follow. The purpose of this is to minimise individuals crossing paths and to support people in maintaining two metre distances from each other. Adults will need to remind children frequently about new arrangements and explain where children can and cannot play, mix and visit.

There can be no queuing at any time. To prevent this, lunches will be delivered to each base for children to consume in their rooms. This avoids children waiting in the hall, which is off limits to children and adults. Staggered arrival and departure times are in place to ensure no one is left waiting, standing or queuing to get in and out of school. Timetabled use of staffroom facilities for the adults has been devised across the school for exclusive use of year groups so no adults are queuing to use refreshment facilities.

Respiratory Hygiene

Children will be taught to avoid touching their face, noses and mouths whilst in school, and to wash their hands immediately if they do so. Age appropriate posters visualising good respiratory and hand hygiene will be displayed in every bubble base, and children will be taught about good hygiene measures during PSHE lessons.

'Catch it, bin it, kill it', will be promoted at all times and children will be taught about the risks sneezing, coughing, spitting and breathing too near others poses.

Children will be taught about proximity and personal space. It is essential that they understand that coughing and spitting near others is unacceptable, as is biting. Purposeful spitting, coughing or biting will be immediately sanctioned, and the child's parent will be asked to collect them from school.

Procedures for feeling unwell

Children will be alerted to the symptoms of coronavirus and will be asked to tell their adult if they feel unwell; especially if they experience symptoms of coughing, feeling warm or shivery, or a loss of taste or smell. Adults in school are aware that this virus can affect children in different ways to adults, and will therefore remain vigilant to any changes to a child's presentation, appearance or general fitness.

The school has very clear and specific procedures in place for any individual who is showing signs of ill health. They will be isolated and sent home as soon as possible. In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, the entire bubble will be instructed to isolate for 14 days. The school is reliant on families to strictly follow the government's isolation guidelines, in these instances. Adhering to this guidance will ensure children are not spreading this virus to our wider community.

Testing is now available for school staff and children aged five years and over. The school will encourage staff and children (and family members) to be tested if someone in the bubble is ill with a confirmed case of the virus. The school will not allow any child to return if they are poorly.

Equipment

Every child will have an individual supply of resources, secured in a bag for their personal use. Every child will have their own desk and chair which is named and is for their use only. This means that no collective resources will be available to use, and children do not share desks and seats; this all aims to reduce the risk of transmission from surfaces.

Children will be asked to supply their own water bottle from home which is for their use only. There must be no sharing of drinks and adults will teach children these expectations and ensure they are followed. School will be providing hot picnic lunches for children; children must not share food with other people and must not touch other's desks when they are eating. Supervisory assistants will be expected to wipe down desks after children have eaten.

Toilets

Each bubble base will be allocated a toilet for their exclusive use. Each toilet will need to be used by boys and girls within the same bubble, therefore, all visits to the toilet must be supervised by an adult at all times. The key message for children to understand, is that trips to the toilets must be kept to a minimum and must not be used as a distraction strategy. After using the toilet, children will be taught to wash their hands for 20 seconds, washing every part of their hand and fingers.

Regular cleaning of the toilets will take place during the school day to ensure seats, handles, sinks, taps and light switches are disinfected. Similar procedures are in place for staff toilets.