



# **COVID-19 school re-opening arrangements for**

## **BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING POLICY/POSITIVE HANDLING**

**(1st Addendum to 2019 Policy)**

June 2020

## Context

From 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, schools were asked to prepare for wider re-opening for priority groups. This included early years, year 1 and year 6 children. This is in addition to the children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response and children who are vulnerable.

This addendum of the James Montgomery Academy Trust Behaviour Policy contains details of our safeguarding arrangements (with regard to behaviour) as a Trust in this time of national emergency.

## Risk assessment

Each school must carry out a JMAT risk assessment prior to opening. The assessment should directly address risks associated with coronavirus, so that sensible measures can be put in place to control those risks for children, parents and staff. The risk assessment has been taken into account when revising this addendum to the Behaviour Policy.

Headteachers must identify any reasonable adjustments that need to be made for students with more challenging behaviour.

## Use of positive handling and reasonable force

During this time of extreme circumstances, the use of positive handling should only be used as a last resort. All other measures, including de-escalation techniques, should be exhausted prior to using positive handling.

Children who are recognised as requiring positive handling should have an appropriate risk assessment/handling plan in place.

**If a child requires regular positive handling/close supervision, then consideration must be given to whether they can be safely accommodated in school, as this poses a risk to both staff and pupil due to breaching COVID-secure measures.**

If positive handling is used then the child's parents must be informed and a record kept of the intervention on Safeguard.

## Roles and responsibilities

As some children in designated year groups begin a phased return to school, it remains essential that school continues to be a safe place for children. To this end, JMAT schools remain committed to the behaviour principles laid down in the Behaviour Policy, and in line with DfE safeguarding guidance.

In light of the need for children, parents and staff to behave differently when they return to school, we must ensure the following behaviour principles are adhered to:

### Pupils will:

- follow any altered routines for arrival or departure
- follow school instructions on hygiene, such as handwashing and hand sanitising
- follow instructions on who/where they socialise with at school, operating within class bubbles
- move around school as per specific instructions (for example, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, queueing)
- follow expectations about sneezing, coughing, tissues and disposal ('catch it, bin it, kill it') and avoiding touching mouth, nose and eyes with hands
- tell an adult if they are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus
- obey rules about sharing any equipment or other items, including drinking bottles

- follow instructions on which toilets to use
- follow rules about coughing or spitting at or towards any other person
- under no circumstances put the health and safety of others at risk.
- correctly present themselves in clean clothes every day, in accordance with the school's COVID-secure protocols.

#### **Staff members will:**

- ensure they are fit and well to attend school
- self-isolate in accordance with the current guidelines, if they or any member of their household display symptoms.
- adhere to the social distancing rules and other COVID-19 secure protocols at all times
- be alert to possible symptoms and report both staff and/or pupil in line with JMAT policy in order to safeguard health and wellbeing.
- immediately contact the Headteacher when there has been a serious breach of the school's Code of Conduct.

#### **Parents/carers will:**

- abide by COVID-secure arrangements for dropping off and collecting children, for example, not entering school building, obeying 2m social distancing rules, etc
- follow all signs and instructions whilst on school site
- inform school promptly if their child or other household member display COVID-19 symptoms or tests positive
- ensure child attends testing if child displays symptoms at school and a test is booked by school
- ensure that their child correctly presents themselves in clean clothes daily
- ensure they pick up their child promptly if requested to do so due to their child displaying symptoms

#### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Policy review**

This policy addendum will be promoted and implemented throughout the JMAT schools.

This policy addendum will be assessed for its implementation and effectiveness **annually** by the **DSL** and the **Safeguarding Director**.

The scheduled review date for this policy is **September 2020**.