



ANNEX TO THE BEHAVIOUR POLICY – COVID-19 (SEPTEMBER 2020)

Background: The Covid-19 global pandemic has meant that many behaviours that previously would be considered minor are now much more serious for years 7 to 13.

This temporary Annex to the Behaviour, Discipline, Rewards and Sanctions Policy (available at https://www.hbs.herts.sch.uk/do/pages/information/school_policies) will be in place until schools can truly return to normal.

Existing Expectations: As stated in the Behaviour, Discipline, Rewards and Sanctions Policy there is one rule that overrides all others and is absolute:

Students must accept the authority of every member of staff and follow, without question, any instruction given to them unless they honestly believe that to do so would put theirs or someone else's safety or morality at risk.

If students have any contribution to make about any incident, each young person can share their voice with the pastoral team who will act as mediators, and assess, review, and change strategies when necessary.

Updated Expectations and Sanctions: There are now a number of behaviours that take on a greater degree of seriousness especially those which are deemed to be deliberate and may put other students at risk. Hitchin Boys' School operates a tiered system of sanctions and the following are examples of behaviours that students must now adhere to and where sanctions are more serious. These include, but are not exclusive, to the following:

Students must:

- Adhere to the Government guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): safer travel guidance for passengers if travelling to and from school using public transport. If you use public transport, you need to adhere to the guidance from the transport provider and face coverings will be mandatory.
- Maintain social distancing from students of other year groups at all times and to stick to your 'year group bubble' including break and lunch where each group has their own designated area
- Move quickly and sensibly, keeping to the one-way system at all times when you do have to move around the school.
- Stick to the seating plan. Do not move tables or chairs and do not leave your seat without speaking to the teacher. The seating plan in the classroom is non-negotiable and is in place for the safety of each student.

- Not share belongings (food, stationery, books etc) with others and do not handle other people's belongings.
- Wash / sanitise hands on arrival at school, before and after eating, and after using the toilet.
- Use tissues or the inside of the elbow if sneezing or coughing, in line with the "catch it, bin it, kill it" message and avoid touching your mouth, nose and eyes.
- Not cough, sneeze or spit at or towards any other person.
- Inform a member of staff immediately if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus such as a high temperature, a new continuous cough or loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. You must go to Reception and follow instructions from staff in order to protect yourself and others in the school community.
- If students choose to wear a face covering, they must look after them and use them responsibly. The face covering must be a mask (disposable or cloth in neutral colours) and not a scarf or bandana. A student must remove a face covering if requested by a teacher. Teachers will only do this if teaching and learning in the lesson is compromised or if the student is misusing the face covering and disrupting learning.

Staff must:

Staff have a professional responsibility to encourage and maintain high standards of behaviour. This responsibility is manifested:

- Use a range of rewards and sanctions, as appropriate, to reinforce efforts designed to raise and then maintain high standards of behaviour.
- Use early intervention to recognise the signs of change in behaviour
- Always challenging unacceptable behaviour, using the behaviour policy.
- Send to Reception any students with Covid-19 symptoms.
- Use the on-call system if any student deliberately misbehaves, putting themselves or others at risk.

SANCTIONS:

- Students who don't observe Covid-safe behaviours will be given a verbal warning in the first instance, unless it is a serious incident
- Detentions, Internal exclusions/Isolation (with support and reflection) can be issued if students do not follow the teacher's instructions.
- Fixed Term and Permanent exclusions will be used if any student puts themselves or other people at risk. All serious incidents are reflected upon and opportunities are provided for support.