

ADDENDUM (2) TO THE SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

INFECTIOUS DISEASES – COVID 19

Aim of Policy :

- To ensure that the risks of COVID-19 posed to pupils, staff and visitors are reduced to an acceptable level.

Objectives of Policy:

- To arrange / plan / organise all our activities safely and in accordance with legislative standards and in consideration of the current government guidance.
- To provide safe working and learning conditions.
- To ensure a system is in place to identify the risks and the implementation of control measures including the allocation of resources.
- To openly communicate any changes or updates to the school health safety policy.

Policy Statement

St Mary's CE School recognises and accepts its responsibility as an employer and provider of services and will provide a safe and healthy workplace and learning environment for all staff, pupils and such other persons as may be affected by its activities. We will adopt health and safety arrangements / procedures / protocols under COVID-19 in line with Health & Safety legislation, and in consideration of current government guidelines.

The management of health and safety will be an integral part of the way that the school operates and will be considered across all work activities and across the wide range of educational activities / services delivered.

This addendum should be read alongside the main Health and Safety Policy, as well as the main school risk assessment for wider opening (dated August 2020) and government guidance documents.

St Mary's CE School will:

- Apply and communicate to all staff / pupils / visitors / contractor's sensible risk management and safe working practices.

This will involve:

- Regular assessment of hazards and associated risks.
- Implementing preventive and protective control measures
- Monitoring the effectiveness of those measures by Head Teacher & SLT.
- Provision of adequate information, instruction, training, and personal protective equipment to staff / visitors (and pupils where required).
- Review of risk assessments, policies, procedures and practices at regular interval and where additional information is gained through changes in government guidance,
- Monitoring / reviewing / reporting to relevant bodies (LBL / HSE) any relevant incidents.
- Implement measures to ensure social distancing is observed across the site and in all buildings consistent with and appropriate to the numbers of pupils, staff and visitors in the school.
- Maintain an appropriate hygiene (hand washing / sanitising / catch it – kill it – bin it) regime to be followed by all pupils, staff and visitors.
- Operate an enhanced cleaning regime for the duration of COVID-19.
- Ensure that staff are informed and instructed to ensure competence and awareness of safety precautions required during COVID-19.
- Educate pupils about COVID-19 (age appropriate) and to encourage and re-assure them about the measures in place to protect themselves from it.

- Require all employees and support pupils to show a proper personal concern for their own safety, for that of the people around them.
- Require staff to exercise increased due care and attention and observe safe working methods.
- Communicate regularly and effectively with staff and parents about the school's response to COVID-19.
- Provide the necessary support required for the return of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in line with education health care (EHC) plans in conjunction with families and other agencies.
- Implement flexible working arrangements needed to support delivery of education during COVID-19, including staggered start/end times.
- Have measures to check on staff wellbeing (including for Senior Leaders).
- Have robust procedures in place for:
 - A pupil displaying symptoms of the virus in school
 - A member of staff displaying symptoms of the virus
 - Informing parents / carers of a confirmed positive case (within the bubble)
 - Deep cleaning procedure in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 on site
 - Waste - dealing with potentially contaminated waste
 - Visitors on site.
- Provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as required by staff for providing first aid and intimate care.
- Have in place arrangements for the continuing education of those children who have to stay at home (clinically extremely vulnerable / self-isolating).

Staff must take personal responsibility to ensure that they have fully read and adhere to the following to protect their own safety and that of the children:

- The most up to date copy of the Whole School Risk assessment - this will be emailed to staff with any updates and is available in the staffroom.
- Guidance on the use / removal and disposal of PPE
- Government guidance - actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings>

See Risk Assessments for First Aid / Intimate Care / Waste / Social Distancing / PPE