

# St Augustine's Academy



## Covid-19 Policy and Procedural Amendments

**Approved by:** Carole Hegley **Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

**Last reviewed on:** New Policy

**Next review due by:** Will apply for the duration of Covid-19 pandemic

*'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven.'*

*Matthew 5:16*

## **Introduction**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, amendments to policies need to be made to reflect the changing health and safety, working and learning conditions in school. The following policies and procedural documents have been amended.

## **Child Protection and Online Safeguarding**

(See Separate Annex for details)

## **Fire Safety**

Covid-19 currently presents a more significant risk than the risk of fire. Doors of classrooms, that are being used by pupils, should be propped open with door wedges to minimise the touching of handles.

If the fire alarm should sound, children and staff should leave the school by the nearest exit; staff should also make sure that door wedges are also removed. At that point, the risk of fire is more significant than the risk of Covid-19. Leaving the building should be done as quickly as possible. Groups should line up in the usual place on the playground, keeping 2 metres apart.

## **Toileting and Intimate Care**

Personal Protective Equipment MUST be used when providing intimate care for pupils. The school has stocks of disposable plastic gloves, disposable plastic aprons and disposable masks for use. The area that the child has been changed in will then be cleaned thoroughly by cleaning staff. Any pull ups, wipes etc. will be double bagged and then binned. If a children is so soiled that the adult changing them feels uncomfortable, then parents/carers are to be called to come and collect in order to change them at home. They may then return to school.

## **Positive Handling**

Positive handling should not be used unless a child is at risk of seriously harming themselves or others. Positive handling should be used only as an absolute last resort as spitting and biting could present a greater Covid-19 risk. Additional support will be placed in classes of pupils that have needed positive handling during this academic year. Walkie talkies (available in each classroom) can be used to staff to call for assistance and SOS cards (which could be taken to an office) are also available. A safe space will be provided for the child; alternatively other children may be removed to a safe space. Risk assessments will be carried out for pupils as required; these will be conducted with parents, school and external professionals.

## **Registration**

Pupils will be registered upon entering the school building. This will eliminate the need for registers to be taken, in classrooms, in the mornings. Afternoon registration will be conducted via a paper register which will be collected by a member of office staff.

## **Collective Worship**

Collective Worship will continue to be conducted daily but will be class-based. Children should not sit in circles where social distancing cannot be managed. Outdoor Collective Worship is encouraged.

## **Behaviour Policy**

The school behaviour policy should continue to be followed. If an exit for a pupil is required then an SOS card should be sent by an available staff member or pupil, to one of the school offices for assistance. If a pupil shows deliberate unsafe behaviours e.g. deliberately flouting social distancing rules then once again an SOS card should be sent to a school office and the child's behaviour then dealt with by a member of the pastoral team or a senior leader. If a child attains a prize, then a note of this should be made and given to the Headteacher who will source a suitable prize for them.

(See Positive Handling section for more information.)

## **SEND**

Some pupils may find it difficult to manage the change to a new school routine. Before returning to school, parents/carers and pupils will be given information about the changes they will see in school, and activities they can do to help them prepare. This will help aid a smooth transition back to school. Visual calendars should still be used.

The needs of pupils will continue to be catered for on an individual basis. Staff will have access to adapted pupils' provision maps as required but it is noted that current targets may not be able to be achieved while social distancing etc. is taking place. The SENDCo will be available to provide additional support and advice regarding appropriate strategies to use with pupils if a need arises. The school will continue to advise on home learning resources for pupils not in school.

## **LAC**

Lac children will continue to be supported by their PEP targets and will be given extra support for transition to secondary school if needed.

## **First Aid**

Protective equipment must be used when dealing with incidents of first aid. For adults who stop breathing, you can only apply compression to the chest and not mouth to mouth. However, for children the risk of them dying from a lack of oxygen is so significant that children can be given mouth to mouth if they stop breathing. See: <https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/giving-cpr-during-the-pandemic-resuscitation-council-uk-guidance/>