

Behaviour Policy changes in response to COVID 19 guidance

Thornleigh Salesian College will look and feel very different from Tuesday September 8th 2020. The behaviour policy attempts to allay any fears or concerns that parents may have about the safety of their child as they are reintegrated back into school after an extended period of time due to the Covid lockdown. We have collectively crafted a policy that makes your child safe and reassures all parents that all steps are being taken to ensure all students at Thornleigh Salesian College have an enriching, enjoyable learning experience.

Our full behavior policy can be found on the school website.

Following the release of the Government's directive for schools returning in September 2020, (Guidance for full opening - schools July 2nd 2020) all students, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term; subsequently, sections of the behaviour policy have been altered to ensure guidance is being followed, safeguarding and protecting the well-being of all students within Thornleigh Salesian College. The policy changes will attempt to minimise any risks from (Covid-19) so we can attempt to provide a safe and full educational experience for our students on their return.

It is vital that the policy guarantees proportionate protective measures for students and staff, so that a high-quality education allows students to thrive and progress. Thornleigh Salesian College will attempt to minimise the number of contacts that a student has during the school day, as part of implementing the system of controls laid out in Government guidelines to reduce the risk of transmission.

This policy works alongside the usual school behaviour policy but pertains to specific government guidance issued to all members of society in light of the COVID19 pandemic. The Governors and Headteacher of the school will seek to ensure that this policy is adhered to for the health and safety of all members of the school community and beyond.

Behaviour expectations

Owing to the new Government guidance for the opening of schools in September and the critical need to reduce infection risk, the following additional points have been added to the behaviour policy covering out of class and classroom behaviour:

Arrival at school

- When students arrive at school they should enter the site either via the bus turn or by the main gate. All other entrances to school will not be accessible.
- As students enter the school site they must ensure they are wearing an appropriate face mask.
- On arrival to the school site students should immediately follow the directions given to them by staff and go to their classroom. Students must not go to any other area of the school unless supervised by a member of staff.
- Whilst queuing to enter the building point students must adhere to the social distancing rules. There are floor markings on the path to assist with this.
- On arrival at school, point students must wash or sanitise their hands using the facilities provided before entering.
- Students must proceed directly to the classroom and seat number that they have been allocated. This room and seat allocation will remain the same every day.

In class

- Students must remain in their seat for the duration of the session, it is not acceptable to leave their seat and walk around the room.
- Students are expected to remain on task throughout their lessons.
- The usual rules around the use of mobile phones remains the same. Phones should be turned off and be in bags at all times.
- A set of the school rules will be clearly displayed in each classroom.
- At changeover times when waiting for the teacher to arrive students must remain in their seats.

Break and lunchtimes

- At break and lunch students must remain in their designated recreation area. Students who choose to contravene this and move to another area of school face serious consequences.
- When out of classrooms at break and lunch students must wear their face mask.
- Each year group has got a designated area of the canteen – this is the only area where food can be consumed at lunchtime. Students who bring a packed lunch must eat this in the packed lunch area.
- Once they have finished their lunch students must return to their recreation area.
- Students must maintain social distancing at break and lunchtime as far as possible.

Out of school behaviour

- At the end of the school day, students will be dismissed in year groups. Students must either follow directions onto their school bus or leave the site. Students cannot gather in groups.
- We expect that all students behave appropriately on their way to and from school.

This means

- Following public health guidance
- Not gathering in large groups
- Wearing face masks in shops
- Not entering shops in groups
- Adhering to rules around social distancing
- Being respectful around members of the public and respecting their need to socially distance

Whilst this policy may appear stringent it is necessary to ensure that all members of the school, and wider community remain as safe as possible. All students who are returning to school must agree to adhere to all elements of this policy.

Student support

The school recognises its legal duty under the Equality Act 2010 to prevent pupils with a protected characteristic from being at a disadvantage. Consequently, our approach to challenging behaviour may be differentiated to cater to the needs of the student.

The pastoral team will work with students struggling to re-engage with school and at risk of being disruptive. Support will be provided for those overcoming barriers to attendance and behaviour, assisting them in reintegrating back into school life. Thornleigh Salesian College will work closely with the local authority and health services, ensuring support is in place for a smooth return to school for all students.

The disciplinary powers that Thornleigh currently has will remain in place, including exclusion. However, training will be available to staff to support student mental wellbeing and minimise potential disruption. The SEND department will also be providing training for staff to support students with the most complex needs on their return. Teachers will be confident in talking and teaching about mental health and wellbeing in the classroom. More focused pastoral support will be provided where issues are identified that individual students may need help with, drawing on external support where necessary and possible. Vulnerable students will be given additional help and health guidance with a range of support including:

- support for resilience, mental health and wellbeing including anxiety, bereavement and sleep issues;
- support for students with additional and complex health needs;
- supporting vulnerable students and keeping students safe.