



## **Primary Play Expectations**

Whilst we recognise that the time spent in the playground at the start of the day, at playtime and lunchtime are a great opportunity for the pupils to form friendships, exercise, play games with their friends and let off steam, it is of paramount importance that we ensure the children's welfare and safety at all times. The children are expected to behave in the same positive and respectful way outside as they do in all other aspects of the school day.

As adults we must ensure that the same high expectations that we have of the children inside the building are consistent with our expectations out in the playground.

### **PRE-SCHOOL MORNING AND BREAK TIME DUTY EXPECTATIONS**

Duties work on a rota basis across the week and it is expected that all teaching members of staff have a pre-school morning duty (8.30- 8.45am) and a break time duty (10.00-10.15am or 10.35 – 10.50am) in the playground. Staff must be prompt at attending their duty and if they know they are away in advance, ask someone to swap or cover a duty for them. It is really important that all staff are on time every day to collect their class and ensure they are lining up correctly and smartly before entering the building.

In the morning a member of the Primary SLT will be on gate duty from 8.25am each day to open the gate and welcome the children and their families into the playground. Additional staff on pre-school duty must be in the playground by 8.30am prompt with one member of staff staying at the lower end of the playground by the toilet area and the other near the Reception classrooms to oversee the 'mound'.

During playground duty the staff must spread themselves across the playground to ensure there are no blind spots or areas where pupils cannot be seen. Staff should check the toilets area in particular to make sure no one has been locked inside at the end of each playtime.

All staff must be vigilant at all times to ensure the safety of the children: assisting children if they have been hurt, and intervening if children play games that are considered to be rough or inappropriate in any way. Depending on the severity of the behaviour, some pupils may just need a verbal warning about their behaviour and a reminder that if their behaviour continues, time out will be given. If, however, the behaviour is deemed to be aggressive or pupils are seen play fighting, the child/children should be sent to the library and the behaviour log filled out that day and the class teacher and/or Primary SLT informed.

Unacceptable behaviours to address immediately:

- Pupils swinging coats or scarves around that could hurt someone else
- Pupils pushing, pulling or dragging each other
- Pupils play fighting or playing aggressive games



- Pupils using rude, offensive or hurtful language
- Pupils running over the planted garden areas
- Pupils running after the whistle has been blown

We must always encourage and try to engage pupils in proactive and positive games and play. Positive playground tokens are available and kept in the staffroom pigeon holes to be given to any children who are playing cooperatively, helping each other etc.

If pupils are hurt and require first aid they must be initially treated by the TA on duty. If the accident is serious or more help is required this can be sought from the main office. If a child is seriously hurt then a member of SLT must be informed.

### **LUNCHTIME DUTY EXPECTATIONS**

The Lunchtime Supervisors oversee the playground throughout the lunch break along with a member of the Primary SLT. Positive behaviour is encouraged at all times by all members of staff. Before the children are sent out to play, the staff will remind the children to use 'kind hands, kind feet and kind words' at all times. This message will also be given from time to time in assemblies and during lessons such as PSHE.

The playground has been designed to allow for children to have fun with children in different classes and year groups, along with areas where they can enjoy imaginative play, sit quietly or run around. However for some pupils playtime can be a difficult time, especially for those who find it hard to form friendships or for those who have difficulty in managing their behaviour. For these children guidance and supportive games are sometimes needed to help channel their behaviour or ensure inclusivity.

Some Suggested Play Games:

- Duck Duck Goose
- What's the Time Mr Wolf
- Oranges and Lemons
- Red Letter
- Queenie Queenie
- Please Mr Crocodile
- Bean Bag games
- Hula hoops
- Hopscotch
- Encourage imaginative play – going on a bus journey etc.

Details of each game are available from the Lead Lunchtime Supervisor.



It is important that Lunchtime Supervisors are proactive and consistent in their approach during playtimes, always encouraging and trying to engage pupils in proactive and positive games and play. Positive Play tokens are available and kept in the staffroom to be given to any children that are playing cooperatively, helping each other etc.

The Lunchtime Supervisors must spread themselves across the playground, making sure that there are no blind spots where children are out of sight of members of staff. One member of the lunch team needs to staff the toilets area, checking that no one has been locked inside. All staff must be vigilant at all times to ensure the safety of the children: assisting children if they have been hurt, and intervening if children play games that are considered to be rough or inappropriate in any way and dealing with incidents in a consistent way.

Unacceptable behaviours to address immediately:

- Pupils swinging coats or scarves around that could hurt someone else
- Pupils pushing, pulling or dragging each other
- Pupils play fighting or playing aggressive games
- Pupils using rude, offensive or hurtful language
- Pupils running over the planted garden areas
- Pupils running after the whistle has been blown

Depending on the severity of the behaviour, some pupils may just need a verbal warning about their behaviour and a reminder that if their behaviour continues, time out will be given. If, however, the behaviour is deemed to be aggressive or pupils are seen play fighting, the child/children should be sent to the library and the behaviour log filled out. The member of Primary SLT on duty will be informed of the incident.

If pupils are hurt they must be escorted or sent to the 'first aid station' to be seen by the Lunchtime Supervisor who is on duty. If a serious accident has occurred, help from the office and Primary SLT must be sought.

### **PLAYGROUND LEADERS**

A number of Year 10 Playground Leaders volunteer their time to help during lunchtimes in the Primary School. This operates on a rota with between 2 or 3 students eating with the children and then spending time in the playground, playing and initiating games with the primary pupils. All Playground Leaders have been given training for their role by the appropriate pastoral lead in secondary.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SITE TEAM**

A member of the site team will check the Primary playground at the start of each day for litter, dangerous or harmful objects, snow and ice etc.

Reviewed June 2020