**BEHAVIOUR POLICY (STUDENTS) - COVID 19 POLICY**

***\*6th September 2021 COVID guidance has now changed. Therefore some of the below may have slightly changed***

At AGSOD we aim to maintain a secure, caring and stimulating environment in which children are encouraged to have respect for themselves and each other. Whilst expectations in our Behaviour Policy remain pertinent, it is necessary, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, to make some adjustments for the safety of all pupils and staff.

This document should be read alongside the Student Behaviour Policy.

Arrivals, Departures and Moving Around

Children will be dropped off at the venue and designated entrance. There is no need for any other parent/carer to enter site.

At their designated home time, children will leave the building again through their designated exit. Again, there should be no reasons for parents/carers to enter the site.

Movement around the site will be limited. They will always keep 2m apart when moving around. Children will follow an adult from their bubble on their designated route.

Children will be expected to tell a member of staff if they are unwell and are exhibiting signs of Coronavirus.

Children must have a responsibility for their own equipment and make sure they are not shared with other pupils.

Handwashing and Hygiene

Children will be expected to follow all hand washing and hygiene routines. Children will wash hands/use antibacterial hand gel before entering dance class.

We ask the children to follow the catch it, bin it, kill it mantra. If they need to cough or sneeze, they should use a tissue or the crook of their arm (and therefore ‘dab’). Children will be reminded not to touch their face, mouth, nose or eyes while at AGSOD.

Should a child refuse to follow these routines, disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used (see below).

Social Distancing

Children who are old enough will be expected to socially distance from their peers and adults inside and while outside. They will have their own designated space inside any space used which they will be expected to go straight to and nowhere else in the room. Children will put their hand up if they need adult support rather than come up to them.

Teachers will ensure that pupils, wherever possible, adhere to social distancing measures. Where older pupils do not comply, the usual disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used (see below).

We understand socially distancing may be difficult for younger children, they will be encouraged wherever possible to keep their distance from peers and adults, however, we understand this may not always be possible.

Toilets and Changing Rooms

Children will be supervised and encouraged to use toilets one at a time. When a child has finished in the toilet, they **must** wash their hands.

Changing rooms will be out of action. Students need to come changed and only bring what they need to class e.g. dance shoes, water, and phone. Everything else should be left with their parent/carer.

Dancers must wear dance appropriate footwear to all classes.

Break Times

Children will be expected to remain socially distant from peers and adults break times. They will be expected to remain in their space during this time.

Rewards

We encourage teachers to praise individuals for their good work, attitude and good behaviour and show recognition if this is bought to their attention. Above all praise and encouragement should be used as much as possible and can be used to show children model behaviours.

Dance of the week certificate will be emailed to the child’s parent. Dancer of the class will be announced verbally but no sticker will be handed out.

Behaviour at AGSOD

If a child’s behaviour is deemed high risk (for example, refusing to adhere to safety measure such as hand washing, social distancing, remaining in their bubbles or deliberate behaviours that put themselves or others at risk, such as spitting or deliberately coughing at people) the following sanctions and disciplinary procedures could be used:

* Conversation(s) with pupil(s) which could include a verbal warning and other behaviour management strategies in line with our current behaviour policy.
* Once all appropriate behaviour management strategies have been exhausted, contact should be made with the pupil’s parent/carer.
* If the health and safety of other pupils and staff members are put at risk by the pupils not adhering to social distancing measures, then the parent/carer will be expected to collect the pupil and their membership to AGSOD may be revoked.

Children with Special Education Needs

AGSOD acknowledges that children will have had a range of different experiences during the lockdown period which may have an impact on their behaviour presentation. More detail of this can be found in the Wellbeing of Student and Staff document.

As a result of these varied experiences children may present with behaviour that is not usual:

* Anxiety; lack of confidence
* Challenging behaviour, fight or flight response
* Anger; shouting or crying
* Hyperactivity and difficulties maintaining attention

For some children, including those with attachment concerns or SEN, and especially those with autism, the change in routines and lack of familiarity will require additional adjustment.

AGSOD recognises that behaviour could be a sign that for some individuals there is an unfulfilled need and that the behaviour is communicating that there is a problem. AGSOD will use reasonable endeavours to make the necessary adjustments to reduce the stimulus that may be triggering the challenging response.

Children with known SEN may have to attend AGSOD on a trial basis so that staff can evaluate their behaviour in line with our safety measures.