Tharreo House Behaviour Policy Draft Addendum for re-opening 1st June 2020

In order to keep staff and pupils safe during Covid 19 re-opening of Tharreo House, we will need to change our expectations of behaviour and learning during the summer half term from June till July 2020.

These are some changes to our behaviour policy for this half term:

* All changes due to social distancing and hygiene maintenance, will be explained to the children with empathy and care so that they are still able to feel nurtured in the current situation.
* We will modify class rules and consequences in order to maintain a calm environment. We will explain these changes to the children individually and repeatedly so that they can learn them.
* We will explain that there are new rules due to the virus and this is to keep us all safe. We will not give consequences to children when they make mistakes and do not follow social distancing and hygiene rules.
* One important rule is to wash your hands frequently. We will ask children to wash their hands at least 4 times during their session. This rule will need to be followed by all and if a child is unable to tolerate it, they may be asked to revert to remote learning.
* We have fewer de-escalation strategies available as we cannot use established strategies such as going for a walk, using sensory toys that are shared, playing with balls outside. We will try to remain class-based for any de-escalation and we will be understanding of children who find these changes difficult.
* We will try to avoid an escalation of behavioural outbursts as much as possible in order to avoid the use of Physical Intervention. Physical Interventions are high risk for both adults and children, in the current situation, and we will avoid using it as much as possible. PI will be a last resort for safety of all.
* When children are distressed and dysregulated, we will try to avoid physical interventions and use group rooms as areas to self-regulate. Usually we stay with a child when this happens but in order to maintain social distancing we may need to leave the child alone until they are less distressed. We will wait outside the room and observe the child at all times.
* If we know that a child usually needs PI frequently, we will continue to offer remote learning to that child and not a school-based offer.
* If a child who does not usually need PI to support them finds the changes to school too difficult and starts to require daily handling, we will reduce the offer to remote learning.
* Children who usually frequently disperse bodily fluids when dysregulated (eg spitting, smearing, urinating) are considered too high risk to attend school during this half term and will continue to be offered remote learning.
* If children start to display this behaviour when attending, they will revert to the remote learning offer.
* If a child who normally uses public transport, is threatening to leave a site, we will allow this and call parents to inform them. If they are not usually able to use public transport, we will try to keep them safe in school until it is time to go home and we will then review their offer to attend school site.
* We will not use returning to remote learning as a threat. It will always follow a risk assessment and will be discussed with parents as a different strategy to manage the situation.