



St Anne's Catholic Primary School

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'Loving God in all we do'

Important information for all parents

Thursday 9th July

Dear parents and carers,

I do hope you are all well and that your families are too. Schools have now received detailed guidance from Central Government. I am able to provide a hyperlink to the full guidance along with a list of bullet points to help provide clarity. Below the guidance, I have provided our planned response to the Government's advice to enable all our families to plan for September. We must all follow this guidance.

GUIDANCE FOR FULL OPENING - SCHOOLS

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

The bullet points below highlight the key information from this guidance.

- All pupils in all year groups return to school full-time from September.
- No 'one-size-fits-all' approach; school leaders will be best placed to understand the needs of their schools and communities, and to make informed judgments about how to balance delivering a broad and balanced curriculum with the measures needed to manage risk.
- The overarching principle is to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff, by keeping groups separate (in 'bubbles') and through maintaining distance between individuals.
- Primary school bubbles may be the size of a full class. Secondary school bubbles may be year groups.
- Some schools may keep children in their class groups for the majority of the classroom time, but also allow mixing into wider groups for specialist teaching, wraparound care and transport.
- School attendance will be mandatory from the beginning of the autumn term.

Planning for September 2020

Planning for September builds on the plans that are already in place. Current plans have proven to be successful when welcoming back our vulnerable and key worker children. St Anne's school is on a large site with several entrances/exits. Every classroom has access from the outside playgrounds by using the external fire doors. This external layout is extremely helpful when planning how to welcome back all our children.

I have organised for continual cleaning throughout the school day and the children will be instructed to wash their hands and use hand sanitiser regularly. The routines we have implemented from June 22nd have worked well, and we will continue to aim to maintain these standards. Parents who need to speak to their child's teacher will need to contact the school office to make an appointment. Parents are welcome to continue to use

Headteacher: Mr P. Bates
Deputy Headteachers:
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the grounds at the front of school when waiting to collect their child, with teachers and parents understanding we cannot hold conversations at the classroom door.

How we will operate throughout the day

Start of the day

We will operate 14 bubbles; each class will be a bubble. The school day will begin at 8.45 am with registration being open until 9.15am. This extended time will allow parents the flexibility to arrive at school a little later. I ask parents who can arrive a little later to do so therefore reducing the overall footfall at 8.45am. Children will walk immediately to their classrooms and enter through the fire doors. Children are familiar with this routine. For EYFS/KS1 children, teachers/teaching assistants will encourage children to walk to their classrooms. There can be no congregation of bubbles on the playgrounds. Between 8.45 and 9.15am, children will work in classrooms completing their daily challenge.

End of the day

At the end of the day, EYFS and KS1 parents will be able to collect their child from 3.15pm through to 3.30pm. For our younger children, the teachers will hand children over to the parents from the external classroom door. We ask only one parent to collect from the classroom door and to maintain social distancing wherever possible. Parents of children in Year 3 and Year 4 will also be able to collect from 3.15pm through to 3.30pm following the same guidance. Year 5 and Year 6 children will finish the school day at 3.30pm and walk to meet parents at the front of school.

Breakfast and After School Club

Extended provision will continue as normal. Parents must understand and accept that children will be mixing from different year groups and different bubbles during this time.

Dinnertime

As a large primary school, dinnertime organisation is a challenge. Secondary schools will be operating in year group bubbles. I too, will be operating year group bubbles during dinnertime. There are two reasons for this; firstly, it is the only feasible way to manage the number of children in our school, and secondly I believe it is important for our children to play with their friends in their year groups. Logistically, we will need to divide our playgrounds into zones with children having 30 minutes to eat their dinner inside and then 30 minutes to play with their friends outside.

Hot dinners/Packed lunches - Children will be able to receive a hot dinner from September. Children who choose this option will eat their hot dinner in the school hall. Children who choose to bring their own packed lunch will eat their dinner in their classrooms. As children have to sit facing the same direction, we have limited capacity in our school halls at dinnertime for all children to eat together.

Extra-curricular music and sports clubs

We continue to absorb the guidance for these essential aspects of school life. We will communicate our thoughts early in September when all external parties have confirmed their individual arrangements.

School trips

Guidance on school trips is clear. The Government continue to advise against domestic overnight educational visits. It is with regret that the Year 5 residential trip to York will not be proceeding in March. There will be no

planned city visit for this year group during their Year 5 academic year. The Year 6 outdoor educational residential trip to Tower Wood for June has a provisional booking and we will need to carefully consider guidance on outdoor activities during the autumn and spring terms as to whether this residential trip will also need to be cancelled. I know our children and families will be saddened by this news.

School trips are an essential part of learning and provide many life-long memories for our children. Children look forward to the opportunity to attend residential trips, especially if older siblings have attended the same trip in previous years. It is going to be extremely challenging during these current times to provide the same opportunities to our children as children have received in previous years. During the autumn term, our teachers will reflect on guidance when considering what kind of outdoor learning can take place.

Additional hand washing, cleaning and personal equipment

Children will be instructed to wash their hands and then sanitise their hands when they arrive at school. They will repeat this routine at break and dinnertimes and at home time. Additional cleaning of toilets and internal doors will continue throughout the day. Children will need to bring to school essential items only. They must bring coats when the weather is cold but large bags are not necessary. PE lessons will take place with specific guidance being followed.

School Assemblies

There will be no whole school assemblies or key stage celebration assemblies. For our Catholic School, coming together as one to share the Gospel message is an essential part of our faith. Class based assemblies will become the norm with each class sharing and celebrating our Gospel in their own bubbles.

Parental curriculum evenings

The current guidance would not allow the annual 'Curriculum Evening' to be organised. The challenges we are going to face when organising parental information evenings will require a different mind-set and a different approach.

School Masses

We are blessed to have two parish priests who work tirelessly for our school. Father Godric and Father Boniface will continue to guide our school on what we can, and what we cannot, organise when considering celebrating Mass.

After what has been an extremely challenging spring and summer terms, I wish all our parents a peaceful summer holiday and look forward to seeing all our children and families when school opens on Thursday September 3rd.

Best wishes,

Mr P Bates
Headteacher

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