



St Anne's Catholic Primary School

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'Loving God in all we do'

Wednesday 2nd September

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to communicate the finer details for when we welcome our children back to school on Thursday September 3rd. The letter sent home prior to the summer holidays communicated basic information for the start of term explaining routines. I wish to repeat this message again to ensure all our families feel confident on Thursday morning. Please be reassured that staff will be available to help guide and support all our children and families whilst we all became familiar with the new routines.

Throughout our school community, there will be a mixture of emotions; some children, parents and staff may feel very anxious about a return to school, other may have no concerns at all. There is no right or wrong way approach. As I have stated on many occasions, St Anne's is a wonderful school community and we will all work together to ensure our children look forward to returning to school.

There are going to be a few differences to school life for our children and parents. One of the first differences is the request for parents and children not to congregate on the playground to talk at the beginning and the end of the school day. It is really important to try to reduce any gatherings as much as possible. I know we will all want to wish each other well but we must try our best not to congregate.

Secondly, our school office is very small. I must ask that we try to communicate with the school office by phone or email. We have marked two metre waiting lines outside the office and I ask that only one adult at a time enters the office for essential purposes only. Everyone knows that I always try to meet with people rather than use emails but, until the Government instructs differently, I can only meet in person with parents for essential reasons only. I plan to continue to welcome our children into school in the morning as per normal. I will stand either by the Year 5 and Year 6 entrance or on the main driveway rather than the path.

How we will operate throughout the day

I am determined that whatever changes we have to make to our school routines will not have a negative impact on our children. For our younger children, arriving at school after a long break may well be a worrying thought. It is essential that parents know they can walk with their child to the classroom door in a morning and that their teacher will be there to meet their child.

We aim to operate a one-way system for parents and children entering and existing the school grounds. The main blue gates next to the zebra crossing will be the entrance gates with the pathway running alongside the drive as the exit gates. The gates nearest Year 5 and Year 6 will be both entrance and exit.

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

Headteacher: Mr P. Bates
Deputy Headteachers:
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independently. As stated previously, there can be no congregation of bubbles by the classroom doors or on the playgrounds. Between 8.45 and 9.15am, children will work in their classrooms completing their daily challenge. I ask that, if children require their parents to take them to their classroom door, only one parent walk with their child.

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. Again, we ask that only one parent collects from the classroom door and to maintain social distancing wherever possible. For our younger children, the teachers will hand children over to the parents from the external classroom door. 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. Parents/older siblings must not come onto the KS2 playground.

Where are the external doors?

If your child is in Reception, you will be told which external door to use when you visit next week for your induction meetings.

If your child is in Mrs Rawlinson/Mrs Avington's Year 1 class, a parent will walk their child through the Reception outdoor classroom to the external door on the left hand side. If you are in Miss Banks Year 2 class, you will follow the same path to the external door on the left hand side at the end of the Reception outdoor classroom. Miss Reardon's Year 1 children will use their classroom entrance to the rear of the KS1 hall. You will follow the path past the EYFS/KS1 main entrance, continue past the bike shelter and then enter the classroom. If you are in Mrs Preston's Year 2 class, you will enter you classroom at the front of the KS1 building. Please do not worry if you are unsure as staff will be on hand to guide.

Year 3 and Year 4 classrooms have switched over and their outside doors are clear to see from the main drive. Year 5 and Year 6 remain the same as last year.

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. It is important that children only bring to school essential items. They must bring coats when the weather is cold but large bags are not necessary.

PE lessons will commence week beginning Monday 7th September. Children will come to school dressed in their PE kits. They must wear their school jumper to keep warm. This removes the need for PE kits to be brought into school and also reduces children needing to get changed in school. A separate letter will be sent prior to PE lessons beginning to ensure all families know on which day children should wear their PE kits. Children are welcome to bring pencil cases into school but these cannot be shared with friends. Water bottles can also be brought into school.

It is essential that school remains a calm and caring place for our children to learn. We have very detailed plans for our school day and all staff have been made aware of these plans through INSET training. I will continue to write a weekly newsletter with updates on school life for all our families.

Wishing all our children and families a wonderful return to school,

Mr P Bates,

Headteacher

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