

Wednesday 15th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

September 2020 return of pupils

We are happy to announce that, as per the government guidance, from September our school will be able to welcome back all pupils and classes. Each class will become a “bubble” and will not mix with any other bubble throughout the day. The school will continue to promote a strict cleaning and hand washing regime and social distancing will continue to be encouraged. This allows us to adhere to the guidance that states:

“The measures set out in this guidance provide a framework for school leaders to put in place proportionate protective measures for children and staff, which also ensure that all pupils receive a high quality education that enables them to thrive and progress. In welcoming all children back this autumn, schools will be asked to minimise the number of contacts that a pupil has during the school day”

To allow the school to reopen fully there is a lot of work we must do to ensure our school is ready and safe, but all this will be completed before the children return in September. As our school has been so proactive in getting as many of our children to be able to return to school in some capacity during lockdown, the school already has a lot of measures and procedures in place that can be carried forward into the new academic year. The main points of the government guidance states:

“Essential measures include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

How contacts are reduced will depend on the school’s circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:

- grouping children together
- avoiding contact between groups
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible”

Our school will ensure these essential measures are met by ensuring the following:



Glastonbury Ave, Blackpool, Lancashire FY1 6RD
Tel: 01253 311248
Email: admin@st-john-vianney.blackpool.sch.uk



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- Guidance is given to parents regarding keeping children who are ill at home (please see section below)
- Our robust cleaning schedule will remain in place where a rota system for our cleaners ensures school is kept clean and areas that are used more throughout the day, such as toilets, are cleaned more frequently.
- Children will be grouped in class bubbles and they will not mix with any other bubble throughout the day. Those children accessing breakfast club and afterschool club provision will be kept in smaller year group bubbles due to spacing issues in these rooms. A separate letter regarding this will be sent out. Our staff can work with multiple bubbles throughout the day but will be sticking to social distancing guidance.
- No large gatherings will happen, so assemblies will be done virtually.
- All classrooms will be rearranged so desks are forward facing.
- Social distancing will continue to be encouraged in classrooms and it will be enforced on corridors and on the playgrounds. Social distancing measures will still be in force at the school office, so only one parent will be allowed in at a time and it is encouraged to only visit if necessary.
- Staggered start and finish times to the day will be in place (see section below) and all available entrances/exits will be used.
- Schools risk assessment will be updated, ratified by governors and the local authority and then uploaded to our website (completed July 2020)

Prevention

It is imperative that any child or parent who is unwell or has come into contact with someone who is unwell does not visit school and follows the government guidance below –

“Ensuring that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#), or have tested positive in the last 7 days, and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). All schools must follow this process and ensure all staff are aware of it.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow ‘[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)’, which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

Household members of those contacts who are sent home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the child, young person or staff member who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms. If someone in a class or group that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves within their 14-day isolation period they should follow ‘[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)’. They should get a test, and:

- if the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period. This is because they could still develop the coronavirus (COVID-19) within the remaining days.
- if the test result is positive, they should inform their setting immediately, and must isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms (which could mean the self-isolation ends before or after the original 14-day isolation period). Their household should self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms, following ‘[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)’



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Attendance

From September, attendance to school is mandatory for all pupils and all existing attendance monitoring systems will be back in place.

Uniform

From September full school uniform is expected from all pupils, if you are having trouble sourcing any uniform please contact the school for assistance. Please see our uniform policy on our website.

Start/Finish Times and Entrances.

To allow the school to continue to promote safe social distancing for both its pupils and parents, we will be continuing with our current plan of using all available entrances and exits to relieve congestion in the area surrounding school and staggered start and finish times will be in place for all year groups. Please see the table below:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>START TIME</u>	<u>FINISH TIME</u>	<u>ENTRANCE/EXIT TO BE USED</u>
NURSERY	8.45AM	3.15PM	FRONT - NURSERY
RECEPTION	8.50AM	3.10AM	REAR -PARK ROAD
YEAR 1	8.45AM	3.15PM	FRONT - HALL
YEAR 2	8.30AM	3.00PM	BOAT ALLEY – SIDE OF SCHOOL OFFICE
YEAR 3	8.30AM	3.00PM	FRONT - PLAYGROUND
YEAR 4	8.45AM	3.15PM	REAR -PARK ROAD
YEAR 5	8.30AM	3.00PM	REAR -PARK ROAD
YEAR 6	8.30AM	3.00PM	FRONT - HALL

Members of staff will be available to assist at all entrances/exits and parents are asked to leave their children at the school gate to ensure social distancing can be maintained.

Travelling to and from school:

We would like to encourage all families to walk to school where possible to promote a healthy lifestyle. May we remind those who are getting public transport to follow all rules in place regarding distancing and hygiene.

We will be sending out additional guidance and information from Blackpool Council that parents may find useful via ParentApp and our website, and further information can be found on the www.gov.uk website.



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We are very excited to welcome all our children back in September to a much more normal school day even with these restrictions in place. We would like to thank you all for your continued support and if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school.

A separate letter will be coming out today about Breakfast and After-School clubs.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff and governors of our school, may I wish you a happy and safe summer holiday.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Allen

Headteacher



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