



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Devonshire Road, Bispham, Blackpool FY2 0AJ

Tel: 01253 353641

www.st-bernadette.blackpool.sch.uk

19th May 2020

Possible re-opening of St Bernadette's to more pupils

Dear Parents/Carers,

I appreciate that some parents have found it difficult to make a decision on returning to school. We have been able to gather some information on possible pupil numbers today and we have also had further guidelines to support us. I am now in a position to give you further details regarding the adjustments made to the layout of the **possible return to school from 8th June**. Please read these bullet points carefully.

- Start and end times to the day will be staggered to meet social distancing guidelines. This will result in a shorter school day. Times will be shared with you as soon as possible.
- On entering, pupils will be placed into a "bubble" within an area of school- these bubbles will have the same staff member(s) attached to them at all times.
- Bubbles will contain a maximum of nine children, with the exception of Reception and Year One - which will each have a bubble consisting of 7 children inside and 7 children outside, alternating, to form a bubble of 14 pupils. (There is a new outside covered area for Year 1.) Although staff will encourage younger pupils to keep a distance from one another, as you will appreciate, pupils in Reception and Year 1 will naturally gravitate towards one another. Therefore we are unable to guarantee that your child will keep a 2m distance from others at all times.
- Playtimes will be staggered to avoid bubbles mixing.
- Pupils will be expected to remain in their allocated room for the duration of the day, including lunchtimes (except for playtime and outdoor learning).
- Your child will not necessarily be allocated to their class teacher due to small group sizes.
- Pupils will be expected to adhere to the strict hygiene rules that have been put in place. This includes regular handwashing and following the "Catch it, kill it, bin it" approach.
- Pupils will be required to wear a clean school uniform each day to avoid cross-contamination.
- Under no circumstances will parents be able to access the school buildings (including the office). All contact must be via phone call or email. Further information will be sent out regarding social distancing rules - our intention is for parents not to congregate on the playground or around the school gates.

Head Teacher: Mrs Alexis Satterthwaite



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- Social distancing measures will be in place both within the school and around the premises.
- To begin with, priority for places will be given to children of critical workers, vulnerable children and Reception children. The intention is that those pupils with a place will attend for the full duration of the week.
- Children of key workers who have consistently attended school will remain within the bubble of children they have already been with and will not be placed with their year group peers, as outlined in the government guidelines. This is to avoid cross-contamination.
- Classrooms/ other rooms in school have been organised to meet the requirement of the 2m social distancing rule.
- The government (based on scientific advice) have advised that schools do not need PPE unless dealing with medically vulnerable pupils. School staff will wear a mask/visor, gloves and an apron when administering first-aid to reduce the risk of cross-infection.
- We will continue to monitor the situation at school and adjust or change any of the measures, we have put in place, to provide the safest possible environment.
- **THERE WILL BE NO FACILITY FOR BREAKFAST AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB.**

Please complete the short online form by **Wednesday 20th May** (sent to you yesterday). **If you are a critical worker, this form must also be completed even if your child has attended school regularly since closure.** If you are undecided about your child's return to school, please use the 'Additional Information' box on the form to let us know your concerns or comments.

Please be aware that we will need an email confirmation from your employer to state that you are a Critical Worker. This should be obtained **as soon as possible** and forwarded to the school email address:

admin@st-bernadette.blackpool.sch.uk

I hope I have been able to clarify your main areas of concern. Further communication will follow as soon as I am able to.

God Bless – stay safe,
Alexis Satterthwaite
Head Teacher

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