



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Devonshire Road, Bispham, Blackpool FY2 0AJ

Tel: 01253 353641

e-mail: admin@st-bernadette.blackpool.sch.uk

www.st-bernadette.blackpool.sch.uk

24th August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all having a lovely summer break.

I am now in a position to inform you of the procedures ready for returning to school on Thursday 2nd September. As discussed, we will be returning with **no bubbles in place**. Children will be able to mix outside with each other but there will still be a strict hygiene code, within each classroom, which will involve handwashing throughout the day and we will continue with the additional cleaning of the individual toilet areas.

Daily procedures

- Two main entrances will be used. The double gates leading from Devonshire Road and the large sliding gates leading from All Hallows Road.
- **8.45 am the gates will be opened; children to congregate onto the large playground area at the front of school. There will be myself and one other member of staff on duty.**
- **8.50 am** the whistle will be blown for children to line up ready to start the school day.

Year Reception/ Years 1 and 2 to line up on the playground; staff will be there to support them.

Years 3/4/6 to line up outside their classroom doors.

Year 5 to line up outside OSCKERS.

Although Government guidelines suggests masks are optional, please can I ask that you be mindful of people's personal space and avoid

congregating in groups. Masks are still to be worn within the school buildings.

Reception class for the first two weeks (from 6th September) will have alternative start times. Please check the received, relevant information for your child. For the first two weeks, Mrs Duke, the Family Support Worker, will be organising a coffee session for the new parents to gather and get to know each other and offer support. Once you have dropped off your children in the morning we will direct you to the entrance of the small hall – don't forget your mask!

As we move forward with our new arrangements, please can I ask that parents/carers do not come into school unless absolutely necessary. Masks should still be worn in the Reception area and if you have a pre-arranged appointment with a member of staff. Hopefully, we will be able to welcome more parents/carers into school as we progress through the term and offer more club activities.

Lunches – to be served in the school hall

Reception – 11.45 am – 12.45 pm

Years 1/2 - 12.00 – 1.00 pm

Years 3/4 - 12.20 am – 1.10 pm

Years 5/6 - 12.20 pm – 1.10 pm

- All children will need to bring into school, every day, a full **sports type water** bottle (not screw type - no juice or flavoured water please). Packed lunches can include a carton of juice.
- Children to come to school on PE days in their PE kit. Staff will be sending home information on the first day back ready for the term ahead.
- As you can appreciate, we have been more lenient with some of our uniform rules as late, as we understood how difficult it was to order certain items when the shops were closed etc. As from September, the full school

uniform must be worn. Please check on the website for the correct uniform list. Please ensure clothing especially coats, jumpers and cardigans are clearly labelled with your child's name.

- Reception/Year 1/2 to bring the official named school bag (purchased from Bispham Clothing) into school every day with their reading book and diary inside. **Also a change of underwear in a small plastic bag.**
- Years 3/4/5/6 can bring a **small** rucksack type bag that will be kept on their peg.
- You will be informed when your child will take part in Forest School activities. Please ensure that the correct clothing is brought into school on that day so the children are suitably kitted out for the ever changing weather.
- Dependent on the weather, a coat/jacket should be worn to school, especially as we will be taking every opportunity to learn outside.

Breakfast and After school clubs

Both clubs will be based in OSCKERS. To access the building, please use the entrance at the back of school. Go through the gates and follow the path until you reach the OSCKERS building. Flexible times will now resume:

7.30 am – 8.30 am

3.30 pm – 5.30 pm

Children can be dropped off and picked up between these times.

ParentPay to be used to book the appropriate sessions.

As from Monday 16th August, adults no longer needed to self-isolate if they came into close contact with a positive case and they were double vaccinated. From September, children and staff who come into close contact with a positive case will not have to self-isolate unless displaying the following symptoms:

- High temperature
- New continuous cough
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Other flu like symptoms such as: body aches; persistent headaches; sore throat; tiredness; shortness of breath; nausea or diarrhoea.

A person displaying the above symptoms will be asked to book a PCR test.

This means we no longer need to send home whole classes.

Hand Hygiene will be robust. We will continue to ask children to wash their hands regularly and we will provide hand sanitiser. The consistently good habits, already in place, will hopefully reduce the risk of more viruses spreading as we approach the winter months on our return in September.

I hope that this information clarifies the arrangements for September. All the arrangements in this letter are potentially subject to change. We will continue to be guided by Government and Local Authority guidance. Should the Government change any rules prior to returning to school, we will respond quickly to the situation and communicate those changes to you.

We really hope that the new academic year will be less disruptive for all. Staff are looking forward to welcoming all our children back to school so the laughter, fun and learning can resume. Please do not hesitate to email school if you have any urgent questions or concerns and continue to check the updated information on the school website.

With all best wishes for you and your family – stay safe,

Alexis Satterthwaite

Head Teacher