



St. Mary's C.E. Primary School  
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20<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **School will be opening to ALL children on 3rd September 2020.**

We were so excited to hear the announcement that all children will be returning to school in September, we have missed our family vibe so much and would like it to return as soon as possible. In preparation, we have been doing our very best to listen to your concerns and suggestions and we have given careful consideration as to how this can be achieved as safely as possible in the current pandemic.

Last week we had our Stockport Health and Safety Executive visit and we can now share details as to how we can return to learning in our close family learning school. Hopefully the information below will relieve some anxieties you may have and help you with any forward planning in advance of September. Things will feel a little different but I am sure we will soon be able to adjust to our new normal.

Health, safety and wellbeing are our priority because without these, our children will not be ready to learn. I would like to sincerely thank you for all your hard work and effort in trying to balance home life, working from home and trying to support online learning. Over time habits change and adjusting to school life is going to be a challenge but it is one that I think we can all rise to as St Mary's stars - we always shine brightly!

When we return on the **3rd September**, your child will be in the same class, with the same teachers they have been with for this academic year and in their same classroom. This will help them to return to a familiar environment with the people they have already built up strong relationships with and for them to say goodbye to their current year. On the afternoon of 4<sup>th</sup> September, there will be a 'moving up session' for everyone to 'meet' their new teacher. This will actually involve the teacher going to your child's classroom rather than children all moving around. At the end of the day, the children will go home for the weekend and the school will have a thorough clean. When they come back into school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> they will go into their new class and new school year. This way we will all be able to say goodbye to the past year and hello to the new year as we return to our new normal.

#### **Bubbles:**

Each class will be in a learning bubble and we will be keeping our familiar class names. A bubble means that unfortunately children are not able to mix together at playtimes, lunchtimes or in other whole school activities such as assemblies and golden time. They will be able to walk past each other or through classes, for example when going to the toilets as this is considered to be low risk. We will try to distance but as you are aware; our rooms are not large so ventilation will help reduce risk. There will also be frequent hand washing, use of sanitizer, temperatures taken and touch points (eg door handles, chairs, tables etc.) will be cleaned more frequently. There will be minimal sharing of equipment between bubbles and when this is necessary, it will be meticulously cleaned before any equipment is moved to another bubble and this will also be the case with computers and ipads.

#### **Staggered Drop Off and Collection:**

All the classes will be in year group bubbles and they will have a slightly staggered start and finish time so we can reduce the number of people on site at drop off and collection. Please could you arrive on time (not too early) and use our one-way-system (enter via the path and leave across the car park through the gates onto Broomfield Drive) so we are all able to socially distance. Reception, Year 1 and



Year 2 children (Red, Orange and Yellow Classes) will enter school through the EY gate and Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will enter via the Key Stage 2 gate near the hall. You are welcome to bring siblings together and drop them off with the earliest drop off for the family. At the end of the school day, children will leave the building and come out of school to you in their class bubbles. This is to avoid class bubbles mixing inside school and so staff can supervise their own class bubbles. You may wait for siblings on site, for the minimum time needed to collect your children and if you remain socially distancing from other families. Please I could I ask that you leave the premises via the main gate asap to aid social distancing. Parent/carers (disabled) cars are no longer able to park on site.

Class	AM & Start Times	PM & Finish Times	Collection Gate
Year R (Red Class)	8:50 – 12:00	1:00 – 3:00	Early Years Gate
Year 1 (Orange Class)	8:55 – 12:00	1:00 – 3:05	Early Years Gate
Year 2 (Yellow Class)	9:00 – 12:00	1:00 – 3:10	Early Years Gate
Year 3 (Green Class)	8:35 – 12:05	1:00 – 3:00	Key Stage 2 Gate
Year 4 (Blue Class)	8:40 – 12:05	1:00 - 3:05	Key Stage 2 Gate
Year 5 (Indigo Class)	8:45 – 12:05	1:00 – 3:10	Key Stage 2 Gate
Year 6 (Violet Class)	8:50 – 12:05	1:00 – 3:15	Key Stage 2 Gate

### Breakfast Club and After School Clubs:

The safety and health of all our children, their families and staff are our first priority. I know this will cause some inconvenience but unfortunately we are not able to offer these clubs at the moment as we use our own staff and the hall. This would mean that the children would be in a bubble which mixes the year group class bubbles all in the hall together. Hopefully this **will only be for a short time** and once we receive further guidance and advice as to how we can manage this we will be in touch. If you would like the phone number of a child minder, please phone school.

### Lunchtimes:

Our kitchen will be open again and a new menu will be available on the website when we have it. Unless you are eligible to a free school meal, they will continue to cost £2.10 per day. If you intend providing your child with a packed lunch please remember we are a nut free and a healthy eating school – no sweets or red labels on food items. Thank You.

### Playtime and snacks:

Playtimes will be staggered so that only three classes are in the playground at the same time and they will have their own designated class bubble areas to play in. These areas will be rotated weekly so everyone has a chance to play on our trail and the equipment will be thoroughly cleaned between uses. Free fruit will also be available again for all children Red, Orange and Yellow Classes. If your child is in Key Stage 2 and they would like a snack at break, please send in fruit or vegetables for them to eat as in the past.

### Uniform:

We will continue to wear our school uniform –navy/black/grey trousers, pinafore or skirt with a yellow polo shirt and navy jumper or cardigan. It is very likely that your child has grown out of their uniform and if this is the case, PTA and school are working together to provide a swap shop with partially worn uniform available. I am sure our uniform supplier will be working again soon and orders will be able to be placed.

### PE:

To avoid changing clothes and to reduce risk, please can your child come to school wearing their PE kit on the days they have PE - black joggers/shorts and a white tee-shirt with their navy jumper/cardigan. They will remain in their PE kit and trainers for the full day on PE days. **NO LOGOS or BRANDED**



**ITEMS** please. In September you will receive a class newsletter as usual and this will tell you the PE days.

#### **Water Bottles:**

Your child will need their own water bottle, with their name on it. To reduce risk, your child's bottle will go home at the end of each day for you to wash it and refill it with water ready for the next day.

#### **Cloakrooms and bags:**

To reduce risk and contamination, please leave bags and rucksacks at home. Your child will only need their school book bag, which needs to be able to fit into their tray, a water bottle, lunchbox, snack and coat. We are not permitted to store bags in the cloakrooms as well as coats.

#### **Reading Books:**

These can be brought into school and changed. The book cover will be cleaned when returned and then quarantined for 72 hours, before being put back into circulation for another child to select and read.

#### **Office:**

Unfortunately parents are not able to come into the school building so we will continue to have our box outside the main front door for deliveries and collections. If you have money to hand in, please put the correct money into an envelope with your child's name and the amount on and give it to them to bring into school. If you are worried that your child will not remember to hand the envelope in, you may also want to inform the office via email or phone saying they have it.

Although there may be unforeseen changes at short notice, we continue to work within the current Government Guidelines and our aim will be to reduce risk as much as possible and by doing this, as a whole school community we can help to keep each other safe and healthy.

To help keep your child healthy and mitigate risk, you are asked to:

- Use the one way system at drop off and collection
- Arrive at school promptly (not too early) and leave quickly
- Socially distance from other parents and model this behaviour for all our children
- Ensure school uniform and a PE kit on PE days, are clean
- Provide a packed lunch in a named lunch box if not having school meals
- Provide a water bottle with your child's name on and wash it at home daily.
- **Please do not bring your child into school if they are showing any symptoms including a new continuous cough, high temperature, loss of sense of taste or smell,**
- **Please inform school if your child is not attending and if they have any COVID-19 symptoms**

In addition to the information above we will soon be posting our approved risk assessment onto our website. Finally, as St Mary's will be closing to all children on 24<sup>th</sup> July, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe and healthy summer break and we will look forward to seeing you all in September.

Thank you for your continued support working to keep our children safe.

Please stay safe and take care,  
Mrs Irvin and all the staff at St Mary's