



# St John's Catholic Primary School

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*In Jesus we live, love  
and learn together*

**Headteacher: Miss N G Teixeira**

## **Reopening of Schools in September 2020**

The following explains the Covid-19 health and safety measures in place for the return of all children to St John's in September. The decisions have been made to comply with the government guidelines, 'Guidance for Full Opening of Schools' and the 'System of Controls' from Public Health England. (published 2<sup>nd</sup> July, updated 7<sup>th</sup> August)

### **Attendance**

Full time attendance will be compulsory for all children, in all year groups. Staff must return to completing full registers twice a day, using the correct coding for authorised and unauthorised absence. Parents must phone the school if their child will be absent and the Education Welfare Officer will restart their termly monitoring.

### **The School Building**

Only staff and children can enter the main building. If parents need to ask questions or discuss anything, we ask that they either phone or email the office or, Dojo the member of staff directly. Please use ParentPay to pay for school dinners, rather than cash and avoid having to come to the office as much as possible. I will be on the gate as usual each morning but, due to the distancing guidance, will not be able to hold long or confidential conversations with parents in the playground. Years 1 to 6: Parents must prepare their children before arriving, for feeling confident enough to come into the classroom on their own with their teacher, without them coming in too.

### **Arriving and Leaving School**

Parents can park for 15 minutes for free at the train station or on nearby roads. To minimise numbers of people coming through the gate and onto the grounds at any one time, start and finish times will be staggered:

**Years 1, 3 and 5: 8.30am - 2.45pm**

**Years 2, 4 and 6: 8.45am - 3.00pm**

**Reception: 9.00am - 3.15pm**

Parents must keep to these times and not arrive too early/late. I will be on the gate, monitoring numbers and will direct parents when to walk through to collect children. If at all possible, parents should try to encourage their children to say goodbye at the gate in the mornings and walk down to their classrooms independently. The route for getting to the classrooms is marked with 2m distanced yellow lines. There are also signs showing the one-way route to enter and exit the grounds. If parents are bringing/collecting their children, they must follow these lines (not cut across the grass area) and the one-way route for walking around the site. Please do not gather with other families in the playgrounds, but leave immediately so the next year group can go home. If children are walking home on their own, please remind them to go straight home and not to mix with other children who are not in their year group.

### **Bubbles**

Each year group and staff team are a bubble. Bubbles have their own resources, a designated playground and toilets. These bubbles remain in their classroom or playground and do not mix with any other bubble. We have arranged the classrooms (not Reception) so that each child faces the front and has their own work station and learning kit, such as number lines, pencils, whiteboard etc. Nothing will be shared with the exception of PE equipment, which will be cleaned after each use. Children will eat their lunch in their classroom, or playground if it is good weather. They will be reminded and encouraged to keep at least 1m apart. Children can begin to take reading books home again. Adults will select the books for younger children and older children will be taught to only touch the book that they are selecting. Once read and returned, books are quarantined in a classroom box for 48 hours before being put back in the library.





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## **The Curriculum**

The school will be providing a full and broad curriculum, taking as many opportunities as possible to work outside. All subjects will be taught but, with a particular focus on mental health and wellbeing and physical health. Children have not been in school for many months and the timetable and pace of learning will take this into account. At the time of writing, it is not yet considered safe for indoor group singing and large group music lessons to take place. Assemblies can continue, but will be streamed online into the classrooms so that bubbles are not mixing together in the hall.

## **What to Bring and Wear to School**

Please do not bring in items from home, including small toys. Children must bring a packed lunch if not having school dinner. Other than a reading book and drinks bottle, there is no need to bring anything else. Cloakrooms will not be in use and so any bag brought in will be stored next to each child in their classroom. If children have worn a face covering to school, they must bring something to safely store it in (eg. a small plastic bag) whilst they are in class.

Parents have the choice to send their child back in summer or full winter uniform. The government guidance (from May 2020) that fresh uniform must be worn each day has now been removed. Uniform can be worn for more than one day at a time before being washed. Staff will notify parents of their PE day. On this day, children can wear their sports kit to school and keep it on for the day. This does not have to be the usual red shorts/white t shirt if it is cold, but any comfortable sports clothing and trainers. As always, please name everything!

## **Cleaning and Hygiene**

Each classroom has a hand washing station, so children will wash their hands as soon as they enter the building. In addition to this, children will be asked to wash their hands regularly and always before lunch and after coming in from breaks. The cleaning rotas have been changed so that toilets and hard surfaces are cleaned twice a day. Each classroom also has their own set of cleaning materials and disinfectant so that staff can wipe down any surface or resource whenever they feel the need, especially high touch items such as door handles. A safety station has been set up so that staff can access first aid and cleaning materials near their classrooms. Staff may be required to wear Personal Protective Equipment such as an apron, gloves and a face mask if giving first aid or personal care to a child. Please reassure your child about the face masks and that it is just to keep everyone safe. We have made our own using bright materials, so they look as friendly as possible!

## **Illness**

It is vital that parents do not send their children to school poorly, especially with any of the virus symptoms: temperature, new persistent cough, breathlessness, loss of taste and/or smell. Should a child develop symptoms whilst in school, we have a designated spare room to care for them in, until their parent arrives. Any child or staff member showing symptoms must apply to have a virus test. Parents must notify the school of the results immediately. Public Health England and our local Health Protection Team will advise about next steps to take.

The school has produced a separate NHS Test and Trace poster explaining how to get a test, what to do with the results and when to self-isolate.

Miss N Teixeira  
Headteacher  
24<sup>th</sup> August 2020

