



ST LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thursday 2nd September 2021

Returning to School in September 2021 information

As we approach the beginning of the Autumn term, I thought it would be helpful to share with you a summary of our plans for the new academic year, 2021-2122.

Monday 6th September: Year 1 to Year 6 children will return to school

Nursery and Reception children have been given separate information as to when they will start school

Although the main messages from the Government state that schools should operate as normal, as the rates in our City remain high, we are still going to take a gradual, cautious approach to the new term.

We will continue to encourage social distancing wherever possible, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day.

Starting and Finishing times

- **Starting times for all year groups:** Children will be able to enter their classrooms / entrance between **8:45 and 8:55 a.m.**
- **Finishing times for Nursery p.m.—Year 6:** Children can be collected from their classroom doors between **3:20 and 3:30 p.m.**
- **Please note that any Y5/6 children leaving school on their own will only be allowed to leave at 3:30 p.m.**

Entrances/Exits to the school site

We are fortunate to have several entrances to the school site so we would ask parents/carers and children to use your nearest entrance.

- **Entrance 1:** Main entrance on Park Street South
- **Entrance 2:** Lower Pedestrian entrance on Blakenhall Gardens (nearest to Bob Jones Centre)
- **Entrance 3:** Upper Pedestrian entrance on Blakenhall Gardens—Nursery Gate. Please follow the path that goes past the school field and onto the playground by year 1 & 2. **Please do not go through the Reception playground as this route is for Reception children and parents only!**
- **Entrance 4:** Through the rear staff car park on Park Street South (near to the trim trail / climbing wall)



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In order to help social distancing, can we ask that wherever possible, **only one parent** brings children onto the school site. Parents/Carers when bringing and collecting children to stay back from the classroom doors, adhering to social distancing rules.

Members of staff will be available at the beginning and end of the day in order to direct and support you.

Hygiene and Illness

- Implement continued regular & thorough handwashing
- Continue with enhanced and regular cleaning regimes
- Continue to promote good respiratory hygiene through the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- No expectation for temperature checks or masks for either staff or children
- Minimise contact with anyone who is unwell and ensure that anyone with symptoms, or if anyone in their household has symptoms, does not attend school.
- Parents/Carers should inform school immediately of any test results and adhere to latest Government guidance.



Lunchtimes and Breakfast Snack

- We will still be selling snack (**£1.00 per week**) - this includes individually wrapped bars / brioche and is available for children at the beginning of the school day.
- At playtime, children will be separated into phases on the different playgrounds, equipment, field.
- At lunchtime, there will be specific times for each year group to go into the hall and onto the playground.
- Paying for school lunches and snack: Please either send the money in an envelope or use **Pay360 (formerly SIMS pay), an online payment system**. If you would like any information about this, please ask to speak to Mrs Ferguson—it is really easy to use and saves you lots of time and hassle!



Parents/Carers in school

- Parents/Carers will not be allowed into school without prior notice and will need to contact school via phone or the school email to book appointments.
- Access to the main office will be limited and parents/carers will need to queue (socially distancing) until you are allowed into the foyer.

Does my child need to wear uniform?

- Children will be expected to wear school uniform as normal.
- Children will be required to wear our school PE kit on the days when they have PE. This is either **our new PE kit or a pale blue t-shirt and navy/black joggers or tracksuit**.

Breakfast & After-School Club (Skoolz Out)

- This will be available but in the first instance, we will be continue to group children in either their year groups/family groups.
- It is very important that parents book in advance as there will be a limit on numbers.

Illness - Very Important!

- If your child or someone in your household is not feeling well in any way, **please do not send them to school.**
- However, you will need to inform us if you think that your child is developing any symptoms of Coronavirus as there is a procedure that we need to follow with Public Health and the Local Authority.

What happens if a pupil or member of staff develops symptoms of Corona Virus whilst at school?

- We have allocated a room where children can be isolated with a member of staff until you come to collect them. This will be done quietly, sensitively and with our caring approach.
- It is vital that we have up-to-date contact numbers for parents/carers.

New Guidance for Schools when a child / member of staff tests positive for Covid-19

The guidance from the DfE / Government has changed for this academic year as it states that if a child/member of staff tests positive, it will not be necessary to send the 'class/year group bubble' home. The recommendations state that Public Health will identify and contact close contacts who will then be encouraged to have a PCR test.

We understand that some of you may be feeling anxious as Covid-19 is still in our community but as a school, we have spent lots of time planning and preparing for the new term in order to try and keep all of our St Luke's family as safe as we possibly can. We have a thorough risk assessment in place which was received from the Local Authority and personalised for our school. This has been reviewed again ready for September, resubmitted to the Local Authority and this will be available on our school website for you to look at.

In addition, all staff are testing twice each week (Lateral Flow tests). These are still available from the School Office and we would encourage all families to also do this, on a regular basis, too.

We hope this helps to answer some of your questions. Thank you, as always, for all your support throughout this time, we really appreciate it.

God bless, take care and stay safe! We look forward to seeing you all next week!



Mrs A Grennan
Headteacher



Mrs V Davis
Chair of Governors