

## *St. Oswald's Church of England Primary School*

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### ***Learning for all, caring for each other, preparing for the future***

Dear Parents and Carers,

Since the Government guidelines to open schools fully from September were published, we have been working hard to plan provision that allows our school to run as smoothly and as safely as possible.

The guidelines state that all children will return to full time school from the start of term. We therefore look forward to welcoming all the children back on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

It is expected that ALL children will attend school from September and the Government have reintroduced the 'fine system' for parents who choose not to send their child to school. As always, we will take into consideration your personal circumstances, so please do contact us if you feel you need to discuss the safety of your child's return in September.

Our original transition plan was to keep children with their current class teachers for the first few days of the Autumn term, but this is not compatible with the latest guidance. Public Health England have said that pupils would need a 14 day break from school before they could then join their new classes, which clearly isn't possible. Children will now be joining their new class on return to school. There are, however, some measures that we are able to offer to help with this transition back into a new class:

- Teachers have recorded a message of welcome to their new class, and these will be available on our website before the end of term for you to share with your child.
- Teachers are able to move between groups so current teachers will visit their pupils in the new classes to say hello and check on wellbeing.
- Reception staff will spend part of every day in the first week working alongside children's new Y1/2 teachers to help our younger children settle into KS1. Reception staff will also be waiting at the door to greet the children with a familiar face as they arrive on the first few days of term.
- The majority of children who are moving into the second year within a phase will remain with their current teacher for the next academic year.

I hope that these arrangements will help our children to settle more easily into a new school year, but please be assured that we will be here to support and care for any child who finds this move difficult. You will be notified of your child's class teacher later this week. It will take us a while to send out all of the emails so please bear with us!



Whilst we will be carrying out an extensive risk assessment for our return in September, it is our expectation that the whole school community will:

- Stay at home if ill
- Follow a robust hand and respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it) routine
- Have enhanced cleaning routines
- Actively engage in the NHS Track and Trace system

The plan for us at St Oswald’s CE Primary from September will be similar to the way we have run since June 1<sup>st</sup>:

- Start and finish times will be staggered to reduce the number of parents accessing the site at any given time. From September, these have been reorganised to support parents with children in different year groups, and prevent parents from having to linger in the playground. All children will enter through their Phase cloakroom door. Please see the timetable below:

#### September 2020 School Timetable

	<b>Start of day (flexible arrival)</b>	<b>End of day</b>
<b>Reception</b>	8.45 - 8.55am	2.55pm
<b>Year 1/2</b>	8.40- 8.50am	3.00pm
<b>Year 3/4</b>	8.45- 8.55am	3.05pm
<b>Year 5/6</b>	8.50 – 9.00am	3.10pm

- Parents must exit the site immediately after dropping off or collecting their child/children, and we ask that you try to time your arrival at school as accurately as possible to avoid the need for parents to wait in the playground
- We will be introducing a **one-way system** for school drop-off and end of day pick-up. Entry will be through the usual gate into the playground and exit will be via the Early Years outdoor gate and past the Preschool. Signs will be in place to guide you.
- Each phase will run as a distinct ‘bubble’ with children kept as much as possible within a ‘class bubble’ whilst remaining part of a wider phase bubble. This will enable us to offer the full curriculum at an appropriate level to our children. The crossing of staff from one bubble to another will be as limited as possible.
- Breaks and lunchtimes will be staggered
- Collective worship will take place in class/phase groups. Whole school collective worship will not take place as usual
- PE will take place outdoors where possible (so please send an outdoor PE kit)
- Movement around school by class groups will be limited
- Toilets will be used by just one phase/bubble and will be cleaned during the school day.

Inside the classrooms:

- Social distancing between children within a class group will be encouraged but not enforced
- Children will be allocated their own personal set of classroom resources

- Children should only bring essential items to school with them (coats and hats, water bottle, book bag, lunch box, with PE kit)
- All KS2 children will be seated facing the same way. Where practical, this will also be the case for EYFS and KS1.

If a child becomes unwell at school (with COVID-19 symptoms):

- They will be isolated and supervised from a 2m distance
- The child will be cared for by a member of staff wearing PPE
- Parents will be contacted to collect their child immediately
- The area where the child has been will be cleaned
- If the child tests positive for the COVID-19, parents MUST inform the school immediately

Home Learning:

- If a class or phase bubble needs to self-isolate at home, home learning will be provided in line with our offer during the school closure.

Extra-Curricular clubs:

- We hope to open Breakfast Club by the end of September, once we are able to put in place the additional safeguards. It is anticipated that places will need to be booked in advance, and may be limited. Additional clubs will be suspended for a short time, while we assess the risks involved and plan appropriately for the additional provision to our timetable.

Please do check our website for any updates to the content of this letter in the case of changing guidance from the Government over the summer. We will produce an additional set of guidance for parents to help you understand the changes in school and the measures we need all parents to take to help to keep our community safe, and these will be shared with you by the start of term. They will also be posted on our website before we return, along with our Risk Assessment, once it has been reviewed by City of York Council.

We have been so impressed by the work that your children (with your help) have produced at home, but we are very much looking forward to welcoming our whole school back in September. I hope that you and your family will all be able to have a break this summer, but some parents have requested additional work to keep their children engaged over the long holiday. We have posted some English and maths Transition activities for each year group on our school website under the *Coronavirus Information* tab, but there is absolutely no expectation that these tasks are completed.

In the meantime, thank you for your support over recent months and, on behalf of the school, I would like to wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



Sue Bland