



**Covid-19 - Information for Parents for full school reopening  
on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Review: Ongoing

St Joseph's RC Primary is committed to providing pupils, staff and all stakeholders with a safe place to be. These protocols for reopening are based on rigorous risk assessments in partnership with our external health and safety consultants; consultations with all stakeholders; and the government guidance for the full opening of schools on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Please note, as always, these plans are conditional, depending upon government guidance and the scientific advice, as well as our own regular risk assessments, and could change at short notice.**

Although, we have tried to put rigorous plans in place, it is important for parents to note there are a number of situations that continue to lead to a partial or full school closure from March 8<sup>th</sup> onwards. These are:

- Low levels of staff
- Insufficient cleaning capacity
- Covid-19 outbreak

### **Our Aims**

Our aims continue to be to:

- Do everything we possibly can to keep your children safe;
- Offer a caring environment for all;
- Support children with their wellbeing whilst they are with us;
- Provide a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum for all year groups.

Much of the information within this document remains the same and we will largely return to operating within school how we did prior to the Christmas holidays, ensuring the same mitigations are in place to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in school. However, please take some time to read through the information prior to the return of all pupils on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

### **School Day & Parent/Carer Access**

From the 8<sup>th</sup> March we will be offering a flexible drop-off between 8.40am and 9am and a flexible pick-up between 3pm-3.20pm. Children will enter and exit via their classroom doors. During the flexible half hour at the beginning and end of the day, children will take part in open activities- curriculum teaching will take place between 9am and 3pm.

As you know, we do understand the importance of wraparound childcare and have worked hard to ensure we are able to offer wraparound provision whilst reducing the risk of transmission in School. Breakfast Club and Tea Club will once again be available from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Breakfast and Teatime Club**

We understand the importance of wraparound care for parents and we will continue to offer this provision but on a reduced basis. Children must be booked into breakfast club and can arrive in school between 7.45am up until 8.20am at a charge of £2.50. Tea time club runs in 2 sessions, you can book for just the earlier sessions between 3.15pm-4.15pm at a cost of £1.50 or you can extend this session and book an extra session from 4.15-5.15pm at an additional cost of £3.50 for this hour.

Breakfast Club and Tea Time Club places **must** be booked in advance. Mrs Johnston will send out a weekly message with booking arrangements for these clubs and we would really appreciate it if anyone requiring a place for their child, books and returns the information in the timescale requested.

### **After School Clubs**

We plan to resume some of our after school clubs after the Easter holidays.

### **Dropping Off and Collection of Children**

A reminder that when dropping or collecting children to/from school, parents should note the following:

- There is no access to the staff car park to anyone other than blue badge holders;
- **We would ask, where possible, only one adult to drop off/pick up children**
- Older children are encouraged to walk into school from the gate themselves;
- We would ask that you keep a 2 metre social distance at all times whilst on site
- Parents should not stop or congregate anywhere on the school site when dropping off or collecting children;
- Any parent who refuses to adhere to these protocols will be asked to leave the school site.
- All adults must wear a mask whilst entering the school site unless exempt

### **Uniform**

Children will be required to wear full uniform once again from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Children will come to school wearing their PE kit on a Monday and a Friday. No other bags should be brought into School. Children should only bring to school with them a coat and named water bottle. They should not bring anything else to school including bags, pencil cases or show and tell etc. The only exception to this is for children who may have toileting needs that require them to bring a change of clothes.

## **Class Organisation**

Following risk assessments and in accordance with government guidance, children will once again be organised into group bubbles, with one class in each bubble. Our plan is to keep bubbles separate throughout the day.

Where possible, children's desks are organised so that children are not face to face. Staff will look to try and maintain social distancing between themselves and the children.

## **Curriculum**

Upon the full reopening of school on Monday 8th March, children will be taught a full curriculum, which will be broad, balanced and engaging. PE, music lessons, and some Outdoor Learning sessions will all take place and these have been carefully risk assessed in line with government guidance.

Once back to school, homework will be provided via Teams for the children. Children can complete and hand in their homework using Teams and staff will provide feedback using this platform. We continue to encourage our KS2 children to use Reading Plus, our online reading resource, to access further reading material at their individual level at home.

Children will be working in books and staff will be marking them under our own risk assessment.

## **Worships**

Children will take part in collective worships within their class and our aim is to extend this to whole school collective worship via Teams.

## **Playtimes and Outdoor Learning**

To minimise risk, playtimes will be staggered to ensure bubbles do not mix. The playground will be split into two sections, with one bubble using each section. Children will not have access to playground equipment and the adventure playground will not be in use. We will use the field when we can, weather permitting.

## **Lunchtimes**

The same as playtimes, lunchtimes will be staggered to ensure different year group bubbles do not mix. Class 1 will eat their lunch in the hall and classes and most other children will eat lunch in their classrooms. Children will eat their lunch in their classrooms and will have access to outdoor provision in their groups during their lunchtime period.

## **Hygiene**

Hand washing and hygiene will be continue to be a key priority for school. We continue to ensure that we have adequate hand washing facilities and plentiful supplies of soap and hand sanitiser. Children and staff will be expected to wash their hands or use hand sanitiser on

entry to their bubble and each time they exit. Within these areas, children will be encouraged to wash their hands or use hand sanitiser throughout the day.

In order to deliver a full and engaging curriculum, children will need to have access to resources throughout the school day. Although we cannot eliminate all risk whilst delivering a full curriculum, we aim to mitigate risk as far as possible. Therefore, within their bubbles, children will be allocated their own set of resources that are used regularly throughout the day, such as pens, books, rulers etc. Resources which are used occasionally may be shared but will be cleaned between uses. For some resources, such as books and games, this may not always be possible but such resources will not be shared with other bubbles.

Staff will also regularly disinfect any other identified key risk areas, such as door handles, regularly.

To reduce transmission, pedal bins will be used for waste.

All areas of school will be deep cleaned at the end of each day.

### **Emotional Wellbeing of Pupils**

Please be assured that the emotional wellbeing of children will continue to be a priority for all staff in school. Mrs Hoggarth, our School Wellbeing Lead, will still be available to provide advice and resources to staff to support with emotional wellbeing and all staff will be ready to support children on their return.

### **Changes to Fire Evacuation Procedures**

Our current fire evacuation procedures will remain the same. Fire evacuation assembly points will remain the same but social distancing will be in place between bubbles, where possible. Children will be made aware by the staff where their nearest fire exit is and reminded of the procedures.

### **First Aid & Intimate Care**

Where social distancing is not possible in dealing with first aid or intimate care in bubbles, we will have a designated first aiders/key staff in school who will administer the required first aid/care to children using personal protective equipment (PPE).

### **Suspected and confirmed COVID-19 Cases**

When all children return, there will still be the risk of COVID transmission, which is likely to go on for some time, and we may have further cases within school. Our commitment to you is that we will continue to communicate with you promptly and clearly if we have a concern, however, we ask that parents also act swiftly and in accordance with guidance if we are worried about your child.

If any child begins to show symptoms of COVID-19, they will immediately be taken from their bubble and taken to a designated area for such a case occurring with a staff member using

full PPE. This room will be well-ventilated and away from the other bubbles. Parents will be contacted immediately to collect their child.

We will need you to ensure that if your child is showing symptoms of COVID that they are isolated and tested as quickly as possible. Please let us know the result of your child's test as soon as possible. In the event of a positive case, we will immediately contact Public Health England who will risk assess the situation and advise us of what further actions, if any, need to be taken.

As we have all now learnt, many childhood bugs and viruses that are not COVID can manifest themselves in a similar way. Please understand that if their symptoms are the same as COVID we will ask you to seek a test and your household will need to isolate until the outcome of that test is known.

If a parent of a child in school or any member of their household displays symptoms of COVID-19, the whole household, including your child, will need to stay at home and isolate until either a negative test result is obtained or after the period of isolation following a positive test result.

### **Lockdown or Bubble/School Closure**

In the event of a possible further 'lockdown', which may lead to school closure, we will immediately switch to our online learning platform, Teams. In addition, in the event of any bubble or school closure due to an outbreak, we will move to an online curriculum using Teams for the children.