



All Saints CE (Aided) Primary School and Nursery

News and Events

2 September 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all well and have had a good summer break. I am writing to let you know of our arrangements for the return to school on Friday 3rd September.

Firstly, I would like to remind you that there has been building work during the summer to reconfigure some of our KS2 classrooms and we have taken the opportunity to rename our classes. A map of school, with new classroom names has been included at the end of this newsletter.

The Government guidelines have changed since the end of last term, so we have adapted our Covid mitigation planning accordingly. Although fewer people are getting seriously ill, the number of Covid cases in the community is still high and this has been taken into consideration when planning a safe return to school.

Organisation

We are no longer required to group our children in bubbles. However, for the first half term, children in each phase (EYFS, KS1, Lower KS2, Upper KS2) will play within separate zones to minimise mixing when outside and stay within their class or year groups as far as possible when inside.

Within the classroom, teachers are able to group children and arrange tables to increase opportunities for group work and collaboration in learning. All restrictions on our curriculum have been removed, for example children are now able to sing in music lessons once more.

To mitigate the risks of Covid this term, our focus will be hand hygiene, ensuring good ventilation throughout school and following social distancing rules as far as possible.

General Information about Returning to School

- *School will continue to operate the one-way system and only the main entrance will be open during the morning. Everyone will enter and exit using the pathway on the right-hand side.*
- *The one-way system will also operate at the front of school so that you enter between the school building and island and exit on the pathway on the opposite side of the island.*
- *Adults are not expected to wear a face covering.*
- *Adults should continue to follow social distancing rules where possible.*
- *Children should line up at the doorway to their classroom.*
- *Staff will not be taking your child's temperature.*
- *Upon arrival, each child will wash their hands before going to their table to begin morning activities.*
- *During the afternoon, the back gate will also be open and you may choose to arrive or leave through that entrance.*
- *No parents are allowed to enter the school site by car unless pre-arranged.*

Please note: All children should arrive at their classroom door between 8.30 and 8.50pm. Children should not arrive before this time as they will be unsupervised.

All children will finish at 3.15pm except Reception, who finish at 3.10pm.

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Our Vision Statement, 'Opening the door to learning and life' reflects our determination to inspire every child achieve their potential

Changes to Covid Rules

The priority this year is to keep children learning in school. Our aim is for at least 96% attendance.

Please don't send your child to school if they are showing symptoms of Covid – a high temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste or smell. In this case, you must arrange for a PCR test. If the results are positive, you will be contacted by NHS Track and Trace for next steps. Please continue to inform school of your test results.

The advice for people who have mixed closely with someone who has tested positive for Covid, including members of your own household, has changed. In this situation you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply.

- *you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS*
- *you're under 18 years, 6 months old - all of our pupils*
- *you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial*
- *You're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons*

If you are contacted by Test and Trace, you should take a PCR test even if you do not have symptoms, to check if you have Covid. You should also follow government advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#) and consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#)

What does this mean for us at school?

If there is a positive Covid case (adult or child) in a class, we will not be expecting the whole class to isolate. All children should attend school unless they have symptoms of Covid, a positive result on a PCR Covid test or have been asked to isolate by NHS Track and Trace.

As a school, we will consider extra action (i.e. the move to remote learning) only if the threshold of five cases of Covid in children or staff who have mixed closely, is met. In this case, Public Health England would work with us to identify exactly who needs to isolate.

I appreciate this new advice may create anxiety and parents may feel the need to keep children off school unnecessarily. Therefore, I would request that you do not post Covid test results on social media, but trust us to communicate with families when appropriate. Please be reassured that we take the children's safety very seriously indeed.

Finally, I would like say how much we are all looking forward to seeing our pupils back in school tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,



Tracey Stanton