



ST MARTIN'S Church of England PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday, 17th July 2020

Dear parents / carers

Over the last week and a half we have been very busy making plans and considering all the actions we need to take to ensure that we are able to fully open St Martin's school to all our pupils when we return after the summer holiday break on the 7th September . This letter will provide you with detailed information. As you can imagine there has once more been a lot for schools to review, and therefore this is a lengthy communication as we want to be thorough in sharing our plans with all of you.

Firstly, it is important to emphasise that the government expectation is that all pupils will return to school in September. School attendance will again be mandatory from the beginning of the new academic year. For parents and carers of children of compulsory school age, this means that the legal duty on you as a parent to send your child to school regularly will apply.

When we return to school the following arrangements will be in place:

No child or adult exhibiting signs of Coronavirus will be permitted to enter the school site at any time.

Staff may enquire more often than usual about the well being of your children and family. This will help us to minimise any possibility of pupils entering the school with any Coronavirus symptoms.

Social Distancing at Primary School

Government guidance states that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary aged children cannot be expected to remain two metres apart from each other and staff.

We know that social distancing with young children presents challenges and to help reduce the risk of the spread of infection, classes of usual class size will work as 'bubbles'. These groups will not mix within the day and the entry points and play areas have been planned so that there is no need for the separate groups of children to mix or pass each other in the corridors.

Contacting us

The school office will remain closed and the school site is closed to adults other than school staff. If you need to contact us please telephone the school on 01579 344042 or contact the appropriate staff member via email (email addresses are on the newsletter and school facebook page).

Pupil absence - The government are now emphasising that all children are expected to return to school. It is your parental duty to inform us if your child is not in school the morning they are not in, with a reason given for the absence. If your child develops any symptoms of Coronavirus please let us know immediately.

Arriving in School

Only one adult should accompany pupils to school. Y6 and Y5 pupils are encouraged to walk or cycle to school by themselves where possible. Families should walk straight to classroom doors (see pupil group list below) and pupils go straight into school. The same doors should be used for pick up. We have set up a one-way system around the building to aid social distancing. Please maintain 2m spacing at all times and do not gather in groups. Different arrival and departure times are in place for groups of pupils (see pupil group list below). The main school entrance will not be in use.

Breakfast Club

At this time (due to restrictions in numbers of pupils and groups of pupils mixing) we are only able to open breakfast club for pupils of parents who need the provision in order to attend work. Breakfast club will be in the hall - please ensure you follow the one-way system when dropping children to breakfast club at the outside hall door.

Grouping Pupils and Staff

Pupils will operate within their class bubble groups. There will be no movement of children between groups and groups will not mix. Pupils will remain with the same staff except when additional staff are required to facilitate curriculum provision or supervision at playtime and lunchtime. Staff operating between bubbles in this way will maintain 2m social distance.

This table gives more details regarding arrangements for each class.

Class	Room	Session Times	Entrance/ Exit Pick up/ Drop off
Nursery	Nursery	08.45-11.45 11.45-12.15 12.15-3.15	Nursery Entrance
YR - Adventurers - Miss Drury	Reception Classroom	0900 - 3.05pm	Reception playground door
Y1 - Explorers - Mrs Hall	Explorers Classroom	0850 - 3.05pm	Explorers playground door
Y2 - Voyagers - Miss Roberts	Voyagers classroom	0850 - 3.05pm	Voyagers playground door
Y2/3 - Pioneers - Miss	Pioneers Classroom	0850 - 3.05pm	Pioneers Playground

Hodgetts			door
Y3/4 - Wanderers - Miss Cox	Wanderers Classroom	0840 - 3.15pm	Wanderers Playground door
Y4 - Globetrotters - Mrs De-St-Croix	Globetrotters Classroom	0840 - 3.15pm	Globetrotters Playground door
Y5 - Buccaneers - Mrs McHale	Buccaneers	0840 - 3.15pm	Buccaneers Playground door
Y6 - Pathfinders - Mrs Pearton	Pathfinders	0840 - 3.15pm	Pathfinders Playground door

Changes to the School Day

You will see from the table above that it has been necessary to make some changes to the school day. We will be having a staggered start and end to the school day in order to minimise the number of people moving around the school site at any one time.

We have created zones in the playground for each group of children to play in. We will be using staggered playtimes. We will not be gathering in larger groups e.g. for assembly.

School Uniform and Personal Equipment

We are asking children to return to school wearing the usual St Martin's school uniform. Children will need their PE kit in school. Pupils will bring reading books and homework books home however they should limit other things coming between home and school. Pupils MUST bring their own water bottle to school.

Cleaning Routines

Thorough cleaning routines will be in place. Our usual cleaning staff have amended their cleaning schedules in accordance with guidance. There will be additional cleaning of toilets and corridor door handles etc at lunch times. Frequently touched surfaces and items will be cleaned during the day by staff. Some items that may be difficult to clean or unnecessary at present have been removed from classrooms.

Hand Washing, Toilets and Personal Hygiene

Routines will be established to ensure that pupils wash their hands when they arrive at school, before and after break, before and after using the toilet, before and after lunch, following sneezing or coughing and at any other time identified by staff. Handwashing soap will be available at all times. Tissues will be available in all classrooms.

Staff will be teaching children hand washing songs and delivering specific personal hygiene lessons. We ask that you spend some time talking to your children regarding appropriate personal hygiene and teach them how to wash their hands before they return to school.

First Aid and Intimate Care

We will continue to deliver First Aid to pupils as and when they need it. We will also provide any ongoing intimate care to meet pupils needs. During administration of First Aid and Intimate care staff will wear the usual gloves and aprons.

Face Masks and PPE

We have been advised by the government that wearing a face covering or face mask in schools is not recommended. We do not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings. Changing habits, cleaning and hygiene are effective measures in controlling the spread of the virus.

Some pupils who travel to school by taxis may need to wear a face mask for the journey. This will be removed in the main entrance area to the school. A poster with guidance for removal will be displayed and a flip top lid will be available for disposable face masks. Reusable face masks must be put in a plastic bag following removal.

Pupil Developing Coronavirus Symptoms in School

Should a child develop any signs of Coronavirus in school, they will be taken to the isolation room where they will be supervised by staff. Any siblings of the child will also be taken to the isolation room. Parents will be contacted immediately and asked to collect their child. The pupil and family will then be asked to follow isolation guidance at home. Testing is available for the child and family and should be applied for online. The school will engage with the NHS Test and trace procedures and Public Health England.

Home Learning Provision

We are expecting all children to be returning to school in September and therefore our full google classroom online curriculum will not be happening. Google Classroom is a hugely valuable learning tool and so we will be using it to support our in school learning and for some homework - particularly in History, Geography and Science work.

If the circumstances arise where we need children to be at home again due to self isolating, closure of a bubble etc we will quickly revert to our full online learning through Google Classroom and Home Learning Packs where requested.

How You Can Help Us

We very much need your help to ensure that social distancing is maintained by all those on the way to and way home from school. I am sure that you will all follow our one way system, maintain two metre social distancing and ensure that gatherings of people do not occur on the school site.

We would also like you to spend a little bit of time talking to your children to prepare them for the return to school to ensure they know that school will be a little different when they return. Please ensure that they are aware that they will be asked to remain in specific areas both inside and outside and that they will not be able to hug and get as close to teachers and

friends as they are used to. Spending some time teaching your child thorough hand washing procedures will also help.

We appreciate that returning to school at this time, with all these changes in place may be difficult for some of our families and children. We will do everything we can to ensure that pupils are safe and happy at school. If we can support or help in any way or you have any feedback for us please do get in touch by phone or email.

I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Take care

Suzy Dyter