



St Mary's Return to School September 2021

Post-COVID Restrictions

This document is designed to outline how St Mary's RC Primary School will run from September 2021 when the majority of COVID restrictions will have been lifted. However, aspects of risk management, good hygiene and best practice will remain in place.

Start of the School Day

This year we have been amazed at how independent the children have become on their arrival at school and it is something that we want to continue. We no longer need to stagger the start and the finish of the school day so this will be our new morning routine.

At 8:45am the small pedestrian gate into school will be opened and a member of staff will welcome children in to school. Parents will not need to accompany them past this point. Another member of Staff will be on the gate into the school grounds (outside the HT Office) who will ensure your child goes into their classroom via their external door. Staff will be ready in their classroom to greet them. At 8:55am the two Staff who are outside will come in and the gate near the HT Office will be locked. Classes will start promptly at 8:55am. Any pupils arriving after this time will need to enter through the main doors of school. This routine will continue to promote independence and ensure a prompt start to lessons.

Bubbles

School will no longer need to keep children in Bubbles and pupils from different classes will be able to mix together again. Therefore we will be able to reinstate whole school assemblies and whole school playtimes, albeit with a few differences.

Morning and Afternoon Playtime

Morning playtime will be for the whole school 10:45 – 11am. Toast Club will continue and children who are a part of this will take their toast out with them at playtime. There will be 2 Staff members on duty. During this break children will not be allowed on the outside play equipment.

Children will continue to use their external classroom doors to gain access to the school yard.

Afternoon play will be slightly different because they will spend this just as their Class. It will be ten minutes long and at this playtime they will be able to use the outdoor equipment and other playtime resources. There will be one member of Staff from their Class with them.

Afternoon play times will be as follows:

- Class 3 2:00 – 2:10pm
- Class 2 2:10 – 2:20pm
- Class 1 2:20 – 2:30pm

Lunchtimes

All pupils will be on their lunch break 12noon until 1:00pm and they will be looked after by 3 members of staff - Miss Thoburn, Miss Bishop and Mrs Lingard. In order to cater for the varying school lunch numbers, lunchtime will be as shown in the table below.

| Time | Who and Where? | | | |
|----------------|---|--|--|---|
| 12 noon | Class 1 in the Hall eating their lunch with Mrs Lingard then out to the yard. | Class 2 Packed Lunches eating in Class 3 with Miss Bishop then going out to the yard through their external door. | Class 3 Packed Lunches eating in Class 3 with Miss Bishop then out to the yard through their external door. | Miss Thoburn on duty in the school yard. Class 2 and Class 3 school lunches playing outside. |
| 12:25 – 12:30 | Hall being cleaned ready for the next set of pupils. | | | |
| 12:30 – 1:00pm | Class 1 all playing outside. | Class 2 Packed Lunches playing outside. Class 2 School Lunches eating in the hall with Miss Thoburn. Once they have eaten they can go back outside. | Class 3 Packed Lunches playing outside. Class 3 School Lunches eating in the hall with Miss Thoburn. Once they have eaten they can go back outside. | Miss Bishop and Mrs Lingard on duty in the school yard. Miss Thoburn will rejoin them once the school hall has emptied. |

End of the School Day

School will now finish at 3.30pm for all pupils. At **3:25pm** the small gate outside the HT Office will be unlocked and parents and carers may then enter into the school grounds in order to collect their children.

KS1 pupils **must** be collected by an adult and will not be allowed to leave until a known adult is present outside their room.

Class 2 pupils will exit by the door at the end of the school corridor between the basketball hoops and Class 3 pupils will leave via their external class door.

If you are a parent of pupils who are in more than one class, please stand in the correct position for your youngest child and ask your older children to come and find you.

If for any reason you are running late at home-time please contact the School Office. Your child will then be taken to the front of the school ready for you to pick up from there once you arrive.

COVID Risk Management

Advice now asks us to look at COVID-19 as a virus that we learn to live with and to do this safely and whilst reducing the disruption to pupil's education, we must comply with health and safety law and put in place proportionate control measures.

As stated earlier, Bubbles will not be in place from September, however there is a possibility that in local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.

From 16th August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, they will be advised to take a PCR test and we ask parents to ensure that this happens.

Face coverings for adults will no longer be needed to be worn in and around school. However if we were to have an outbreak of COVID-19 at school we made need to reinstate wearing them.

Control Measures

At school we will:

- Ensure good hygiene practice for everyone.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Hand Hygiene

Pupils and Staff will continue the regular practice of frequent and thorough hand cleaning. This will be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.

Respiratory Hygiene

School will continue to promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to coughs and sneezes.

PPE

School continues to have PPE available for staff to use when they feel they need it. Such as using gloves whilst administering First Aid.

Cleaning Regimes

School will continue to maintain the usual cleaning routines carried out by our Site Supervisor Staff coupled with the extra cleaning down of frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.

Good Ventilation

We will ensure that all working spaces in school remain well ventilated with a good fresh air flow and a throughput of air. We will also balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable working temperature.

Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

If a pupil or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 they should follow public health advice on when and how to self-isolate. No pupil or adult should come to school if they have symptoms or if they have had a positive test result.

If a child develops symptoms whilst they are at school we will contact parents and ask for the child to be collected. Whilst they are waiting the child will be moved to well ventilated room away from others and be supervised by a staff member wearing PPE (gloves, mask and apron). After the child has left the school any rooms they have used will be cleaned. Parents will be advised to take their child for a PCR test.

LFD and PCR Testing

Staff or pupils who get a positive LFD test (test taken at home and result returned within 30 mins) result should self-isolate in line with guidance. They will then need to get a PCR test (test done at a registered test centre) to check if they do have COVID-19. Whilst they are waiting for the PCR result the individual should continue to self-isolate.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive LFD test, and is **negative**, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupils/ staff can return to school as long as they do not have any symptoms.

Remote Education

School will provide remote education for any pupils who need to self-isolate. This will be done through Teams and will be relevant to the child and their needs.

We hope this document sets out a clear picture of how school will look and run from September. If you have any further questions please contact school.