



Bishop Martin Church of England Primary School



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Learning Together, in God's Love

26th August 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you have all had some kind of rest over the summer holidays and are looking forward to your children being back in school. Our staff are certainly looking forward to getting back into a term time routine.

I am writing with a short update and recap of what we now expect to happen next week for Y1 – Y6. Children in Y1 - Y6 will be returning to their new year group classrooms and will be learning and playing in their year group PODs / bubbles. All children will be back in school 5 full days per week. Children in Y1 - Y6 will have their own desk to work at and their own pack of equipment.

Timetables

Our mornings will be Maths and English as usual and then the other subjects will be taught in the afternoon where possible outside. There will be playtimes in the mornings and afternoons but children will play in an allocated play area outside as a class. There will be daily worship within each class / POD via Microsoft Team or led by their class teacher.

Social Distancing on entry and exit of school

Please be responsible for your child's social distancing and your own social distancing. The biggest challenge for all of us is the collection and drop off of children. My view is that we need to follow government guidelines in order to ensure children and staff are safe and to keep school open and children learning. The more we socially distance without impacting negatively on learning the less chance that we will have a COVID case. It would really, really help staff if you can please follow this advice:

- We would ask **one adult only drops off and collects their child** from school to reduce the number of people on our site. The adult collecting **must wear a mask to collect and drop off** their child (unless medically exempt). We are asking parents to do this as the numbers up and down the road are the biggest challenge at drop offs and collection times. We will review this on a weekly basis once routines have been established.
- We are asking all parents to walk up the road into school on the pavement (not through the church yard). Please do not stop to talk to other parents / carers as this means that other people are then backed up behind you and please do not stop at the bottom of the path leading into Church Road either, again it makes it really awkward for others to have to find a way past you.
- If I can ask you please to wait patiently if there is a queue along the path into school, there will be 2 metre marks to guide families if there is a queue.
- There is a line along the road to help families to **stay on the left hand side on the way up and down the road** leading into school. Please make sure your child / children walk next to you on the way up and down the road and you don't stop to talk to other families as this makes it difficult for others behind you.



We have asked parents to bring their child in an allocated 10 minute class time slot. We are having staggered start and finish times in order to support both adults and children to socially distance as they enter school. The morning drop off time frame will be 8.30 – 9.30am and the collection time frame will be 3 - 4pm. We will reflect on and adapt this as we go, as having an hour of children entering class and an hour where children leave the class is potentially disruptive for learning so the sooner we can reduce this window safely the better.

We are allocating a 10 minute class time slot for each year group again to try and spread out the numbers on site at any one time. If you have to come earlier than your class time slot due to work commitments that is fine but if you can stick to your class time slot it would be really appreciated.

For the week beginning 2nd September the following drop off and collection times will be in place. Reception class do not start until 7th September and a separate letter is being sent to these families.

Class	Drop off slot	Collection Slot
Year 6	8.30am – 8.40am	3.50 – 4pm
Year 5	8.40am – 8.50am	3.40 – 3.50pm
Year 4	8.50am – 9am	3.30 – 3.40pm
Year 3	9am – 9.10am	3.20 – 3.30pm
Year 2	9.10am – 9.20am	3.10 – 3.20pm
Year 1	9.20am - 9.30am	3pm – 3.10pm

If you have children in more than one year group, we will leave it up to you to choose the slot in which one of your children is in and bring all your children at the same time in that slot.

- Parents will be asked to leave their child at the main gate and your child will go into their class entrance independently. The main gate will be manned by Bishop Martin Staff. Staff will be on duty to help children settle into this new routine next week. This routine worked well during the summer term.
- When collecting, parents can collect their child at the allocated slot. We ask if you can please queue along the path into school at 2 metre intervals and we will message the class and your child will come out to you. You may be asked to stand to the side to wait for your child to come out, again please make sure you stand 2 metres apart from other adults waiting.
- We do have families who have vulnerable members who have been shielding please conform and maintain social distancing for other people if you are not doing it for yourself.

Childcare – Breakfast Club and After School Club

- There will be breakfast club the first week from 7.45am for those who need it. We have asked for you to not use this service if you can avoid it please as we need to keep children in year group PODs where possible. From now on all breakfast club and after school club must be paid a week in advance and booked in advance please.
- There is no after school club the first week back, but I will review this before the week beginning 7th September once routines have been established. If the R value and government guidance remains the same, my plan is to reintroduce after school club from 7th September and also extend breakfast club so that it starts from 7.30am Any queries re breakfast club please email d.pearce@ldst.org.uk

Important points for Wednesday 2nd September Y1 – Y6:

- All children need a labelled water bottle which they will take home each night to clean and refill please.
- **Children need a labelled PE bag with a PE kit (also labelled with child's name) including trainers brought into school daily.** Please note they do need a PE kit in school every day, as we are doing a 30 minute cardio session most days as part of their new timetable. From 7th September, children can wear their PE kit all day if they want to on the days they have full PE lessons, teachers will inform their classes which days they have PE lessons on when we are back in school. Alternatively, children can bring PE kit in a bag into school as normal.



- Please make sure every item of your child's uniform is labelled clearly with your child's name. We have 220 children with 220 jumpers etc and it saves staff time if we can return your child's jumper to them if it is mislaid if it is labelled clearly.
- Children can bring in a packed lunch or order a school lunch as usual. **Please confirm whether your child will require a school lunch or a packed lunch for this half term** – please note your child should remain on this meal pattern until October half term when you will have the option to change. Kindly confirm your requirements to Jo Richardson at j.richardson@ldst.org.uk. Children will be remaining in year groups to eat lunch in the school hall.
- Children do need their school reading bags now in school daily but we would please ask if any other non-essential items are not brought into school at this time.
- If your child needs medicine, we will email the medicine form for you to fill in electronically. To request a medical form please e-mail Debbie Pearce on d.pearce@ldst.org.uk
- For any other admin requests if you could please continue to avoid visiting the office and instead e-mail or phone the school office.

Debate over face masks

There is much in the media this week regarding face masks and the advice may change before Tuesday if so I will email again. I will leave it up to individual families to decide if they want their child to wear a face mask walking into and out of school. Children can wear face masks as they walk up the road into school due to the high numbers of children and parents on the road. As children enter the school gate they will then put the mask away in their bag. As they leave school they can then put on their mask if you would like them to. Primary aged children will not be wearing masks inside school as per the latest government guidance.

I have included attached to this email a visual poster that I would like you to share with your child if possible before Tuesday to sum up the key points. If you have any specific questions regarding Wednesday 2nd September start please e-mail homelearning.bishopmartin@ldst.org.uk and I will respond as soon as I can.

With best wishes,



Sally Aspinwall
Executive Headteacher

