



Tuesday 14th July, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Phased Re-Opening of St Mary's School

I hope you and your families continue to be well, and adjusting to the new changes as Government ease more aspects of lockdown. The St Mary's School team continue to miss all of our pupils and, being a whole school family, we cannot wait to welcome you back. We know many of our pupils are already looking forward to returning to St Mary's, seeing their friends once more and re-commencing their learning with their class teachers.

As we enter the final week of term, we are busy preparing for a full re-opening of school in September. The Government has set out detailed guidance for school leaders so we can put proportionate protective measures in place for children and staff. By putting certain controls in place (these are explained below) we aim to reduce the number of contacts that the pupils have during the school day.

A detailed risk assessment has been carried out and, with the measures in place, St Mary's School will be **open for all pupils from Wednesday 2nd September.**

What will the focus be from September?

- To ensure that the school site, building and procedures are adapted to reflect the latest safety guidelines.
- Following the Covid-19 crisis the mental and emotional health and well-being, for all pupils and staff, has a strong focus in all classes as we welcome everyone back to St Mary's.
- That any gaps in children's learning are addressed and that resources and interventions are implemented in the most effective way.

What will school look like ?

- St Mary's School will look and feel very different to your school before the pandemic.
- All children in school will stay within their own year group classroom. Each class will become its own 'bubble' and where possible there will be little or no contact between the bubbles.
- The number of adults your child will come into contact with, has been limited. This may include the peripatetic teachers from the Music Centre and the teacher from Sports Development.

Which entrances should we use and what time should we arrive ?

Reception

Pupils in Reception will be taught by Miss Zylko in the Reception classroom.

Entrance/ Exit through the small gate from the playground which leads to the Reception outdoor play area

Arrive 8:40 am. Collect 3.10pm

Whilst Reception are on part time from the 2nd Sept – 10th Sept. A morning session will be 8:40 – 11:40am. An afternoon session will be 1:10pm -3:10pm

Year 1

Pupils in Year 1 will be taught by Mrs Ernest in the Year 1 classroom.

Entrance/ Exit through the Infant Entrance in Year 1.

Arrive 8:40 am. Collect 3.10pm

Year 2

Pupils in Year 2 will be taught by Mrs Barlow and Mrs Hardman in the Year 2 classroom.

Entrance/ Exit through the Lower Entrance.

Arrive 8:40 am. Collect 3.10pm

Year 3

Pupils in Year 3 will be taught by Mrs Thomas in the Year 3 classroom.

Entrance/ Exit through the Year 3 Classroom Door.

Arrive 9:00am. Collect 3:30pm

Year 4

Pupils in Years 4 will be taught by Mrs Booth and Mrs Burke in the Year 4 classroom.

Entrance/ Exit through the Junior Entrance.

Arrive 9:00am. Collect 3:30pm

Year 5

Pupils in Year 5 will be taught by Mrs Corless in the Year 5 classroom.

Entrance/ Exit through the Year 5 Classroom Door.

Arrive 8:50am. Collect 3:20pm

Year 6

Pupils in Years 6 will be taught by Mr Day in the Year 6 classroom.

Entrance/ Exit through Year 6 Classroom Door.

Arrive 8:50am. Collect 3:20pm

If you have children in more than one class and attending at different times, then all pupils in that family should arrive at the earlier time. The older pupil who is arriving at the earlier time to their class should enter through the main entrance.

What do we ask of Parents/ Carers/Grandparent bringing pupils to school ?

- Only **one parent** to bring pupils onto school grounds.
- All year 5, 6 pupils to be left at the school gates and pupils enter on their own.
- **Please arrive promptly at the allocated time.**
- Pupils must stay with their adult at all times.
- **Extremely urgent messages only** to be passed onto staff at drop-off, please ring or e-mail us at office@stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk with anything you need to ask or inform us about.



- Parents should remain socially distanced whilst on the school grounds, please do not gather at the school gates.
- At this time we cannot invite parent/grandparent helpers into school.

What will my classroom look like ?

- Desks will all be facing the front with 2 pupils per desk sitting side by side. Reception classroom will still be set up as an early year's classroom in order to deliver the early years curriculum. Movement around the classroom will be limited as much as possible.
- Year 1 classroom will also initially be set out similar to an early years classroom whilst we settle the pupils back into school and make the transition into Year 1.
- Classrooms will be well ventilated and internal doors open. Pupils should ensure they are wearing a jumper or cardigan as school may feel cooler than usual.
- Each child will have their own pen/pencil/rubber/pencil crayons/whiteboard and pen but resources can be used and shared within the individual bubbles. Any shared resources across the school will be thoroughly cleaned between uses.
- Coats will remain on the back of chairs. Book bags and PE kits on coat pegs. (Y6 will have a box for their book bags in the classroom.)

What hand washing is in place ?

- Soap dispensers have been installed in all sinks in school and soap blocks removed.
- There will be a hand sanitiser in every classroom and children will use the hand sanitiser as they come into school in the morning and before they leave at the end of the day.
- Children will be washing their hands more than usual.
- We will aim to promote good respiratory hygiene and will be displaying 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' posters around school, as well as talking to the children.
- Each class will have its own supply of tissues and a lidded pedal bin to dispose of waste. Pupils may bring their own pack of tissues.

What should pupils wear ?

- The children will need to come in their full school uniform, including black school shoes.
- A P.E. kit should be brought into school and taken home after each use. All PE lessons will take place outside so as the weather gets colder the children will need tracksuits and trainers.

What will pupils need to bring with them ?

- Book bags can be brought into school.
- We will be sending reading books home in September. All reading books sent home before the lockdown must be returned during the first week. Books received in school will be quarantined for 48 hours and thoroughly cleaned before being sent out again.
- The children **must** bring a water bottle in from home. This will remain on the child's work station. The bottles will be sent home for washing every day; **please ensure this bottle is clearly labelled.**



- Pupils may bring their own packet of disposable tissues and hand sanitiser if they wish. Please label hand sanitiser.
- If we are fortunate to have lovely weather when we return, please remember to apply sun cream. If sun cream is sent in with your child, it must be clearly labelled and children must be able to apply themselves.

Will my child need PPE ?

- No, children **will not** need to wear a face mask, as advised by the Government.
- Most staff will not be wearing PPE equipment unless completing first aid or advised differently by their own health professional, as per Government guidelines.

What cleaning measures are in place ?

- All areas of school have been deep cleaned.
- All the Infant classrooms and the Infant corridor have been fully redecorated.
- All used areas will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each day.
- We will aim to clean frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.
- The Government have updated their advice on 2nd July 2020 and state that there is no need for anything other than normal personal hygiene. School uniform does not require daily washing.
“Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal”.

What will lunchtime and break times look and feel like ?

- All Infant children will eat their lunches in the school hall in their bubbles. Reception pupils will be having an earlier lunch than usual to accommodate this. There is a revised menu available on the school website, hot meals are provided but with a reduced choice.
- All Junior children will eat their lunches in their classrooms. The school kitchen can provide a warm packed lunch to be eaten in the classrooms at the cost of £2.40 per day, if required.

For example:

Week 1

Monday: Fish finger sandwich and pasta, dessert of a biscuit or a cake

Tuesday: Cheese panini and croquettes, dessert of a mousse

Wednesday: Meat and potato or cheese and onion pasty with wedges, dessert of a flapjack

Thursday: Spicy chicken wrap with herby diced potatoes, dessert of a cake

Friday: Pizza and chips, dessert of a biscuit

- Please note to facilitate the lunch time arrangements Y5 and Y6 will have their lunch at the slightly later time of 12:30 – 1:30pm
- Free school meals, for those eligible, will continue to be provided.

- For those pupils bringing their own packed lunch, please bring this in a disposable bag, which can be thrown away at the end of lunchtime **or** in a lunchbox that will return home with the pupil which will need to be cleaned thoroughly each night.
- Lunch and break times will be taken in their own bubbles.
- Each bubble will play out in different zones, and the number of zones will be limited

Will there be Before and After School Facility and Extra Curricular Activities ?

- There will be no extra curricular activities.
- Before and After school is available to all pupils and is by prior arrangement directly with Squirrels.
- Many of the same procedures that are in place in school will be in place for Squirrels.
- They will operate two discrete bubbles, one for Key Stage 1 pupils and one for Key Stage 2 pupils, both bubbles will be based at the opposite ends of the school hall.
- Pupils will sit for an activity with someone from their own year group.
- Each bubble will have their own zone outside.
- *If for any reason the school hall becomes unavailable, Squirrels would not be able to offer their services. Squirrels will provide parents with notice as soon as practically possible.*

Does my child have to attend school and will I be penalised if I choose not to send them ?

- School attendance is once again mandatory.
- Fixed penalty fines may be issued if children do not attend.

Are there any groups of pupils who should not be attending school at this time ?

The majority of pupils will be able to return to school. However if you fall into any of the categories below please contact school:

- a small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves; or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/covid-19-shielding-guidance-children-young-people#children-who-should-be-advised-to-shield>
- some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment).

Where a pupil is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice, we will continue to provide home learning opportunities.

Where children are not able to attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised.



What should you do if your child or someone in your household displays symptoms?

If your child or any family member displays any of the coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms listed below (taken from the latest Government advice)

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)
- If children display any of these symptoms during a school day, we will ring for you to collect them immediately and they will be kept in isolation from other children.

Please ensure we have your up to date contact details.

- **If symptoms present whilst at home you must inform school.**
- Pupils showing symptoms must self-isolate for 7 days.
- Pupils living in the same household as someone showing symptoms are to self-isolate for 14 days from the day the symptoms started.
- **Please do not attend school under any circumstances**
- Where a child, or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group will be sent home and will self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

All of the plans we've informed you of in this letter remain subject to change. If the Government, Local Authority or Teaching Unions recommend a different course of action, we will change our plans accordingly and communicate with you all once we've considered the recommendation fully.

I would like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child learn from home. Please continue to take care, follow the safety guidelines and look after yourselves and your family. We look forward to seeing you all in September !

Kind Regards

PA Hartley
Headteacher

On behalf of St Mary's Governing Body