



St. Augustine's
Catholic Primary School

Hardy Avenue
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Headteacher: Mrs Emma Berry



Friday 5th March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are delighted to welcome back all of our children into school on Monday 8th March; it will be lovely to see their smiling faces again.

We have worked hard to update our whole school risk assessment and control measures in light of the latest Government Guidance dated February 2021. The staggered entry and exit times and procedures remain the same as prior to lockdown, and we ask that children arrive at school accompanied by an adult between **8.40am and 8.55am**. Please can adults and children respectively maintain a 2-metre distance on entry and exit and follow the one-way system in and out of the car park and the school field. Please ensure that your child/ren do not use the KS2 playground when exiting, as this is cleaned as part of our control measures. We ask that on entry and exit into school the follow guidelines are adhered to:

- **Reception** - Walk up the path alongside the school car park and pass your child to a Reception staff member at the pale blue Reception porch. Then proceed to walk out through the car park and out through the double gates. Please collect your child at 3pm.
- **Year 1** - Walk up the path alongside the car park and allow your child to enter via the blue doors next to the Chapel. A Year 1 staff member will greet your child at these doors. Please collect your child at 3.15pm.
- **Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6** - Walk your child through the car park and enter the school site via the blue gate to the right hand side of the school near my office. Please walk your child around to their appropriate classroom. You will see a staff member at the back door of each classroom who will welcome your child into school. Please do not enter the school building. Please then continue to walk out of the school site via the field and through the blue gate, into the car park and exit via the double gates leading into Hardy Avenue. Please collect your child from between 3pm-3.15pm.

Your child will remain in their class bubble throughout the school day. Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered throughout the day and each class will be allocated a specific area for playtime on either the playground, or the astro-pitch, and at a later date, on the school field. Your child will remain within their class bubble during both playtime and lunchtime. Lunch will be eaten in classrooms and hot-food will be served as normal, but delivered to your child's classroom to be eaten. Your child's classroom will be cleaned three times a day (mid-morning, lunchtime and more thoroughly after-school.) If you are providing a packed lunch for your child, please ensure that your child's lunchbox and drinks bottle are all clearly labelled. If you are ordering a meal for your child via Local Food Links, please ensure that you provide your child with a mid-morning fruit snack and a drinks bottle, and again please ensure that these are also clearly labelled.

Please ensure that your child returns to school wearing full school uniform with appropriate school shoes. To reduce the potential cost of buying new uniform, your child may return to school in either their winter uniform or their summer uniform. Please also ensure that your child brings their clearly labelled PE Kit into school on Monday 8th March. PE kits will be returned to you at the end of each week to enable them to be washed. The Government Guidance states that there is no need to wash your child's clothes more than normal.

Please refer to the following link: <https://youtu.be/D3GkzXqKjHQ> to access a helpful video provided by The Mental Health Team (Weymouth & Portland) to support your child/ren's return to school.

We are looking forward to returning to our virtual Monday Liturgies and Gospel Value Reflections on Fridays to reiterate that Christ is at the centre of our school ethos and is permeated through everything that we do.

We will be offering a catch-up programme to specifically targeted children throughout the school day. It is most likely that this support will be offered to the very few children who did not engage well with the live and pre-recorded lessons via Google Classrooms throughout the lockdown period, or if your child is not on track to reach their end of year target in reading, writing and maths. To discuss this further and to establish whether your child has been identified, please liaise directly with your child's class teacher. Our parent/guardian consultations meeting will be taking place virtually on Wednesday 21st April for EYFS and KS1 classes and Thursday 22nd April for KS2 classes. The Office staff will send out appointment times in due course.

As from week commencing 8th March, your child will receive a 'normal' reading book(s) as opposed to a virtual book via Reading Planet. If you would still like your child to be allocated the e-books via Reading Planet, please speak to your child's teacher directly as this can easily be arranged. Please can I ask that any Chromebooks that have been loaned to you be kindly returned to school, so that we can fully access them to support your child's learning. Please do not return the home learning books that your child has been using to record their remote learning, as much of this work has been submitted via Google Classrooms. Please continue to use these books to support any future homework.

If you would like to communicate directly with your child's class teacher the email addresses will remain activated until further notice. To email:

Mrs Evans - reception@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Bladon/Miss Mayes - year1@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Baskerville/Mr Boucher - year2@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Harding - year3@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Kenway - year4@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

Mr Trevett - year5@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Gray/Mrs Tonkin - year6@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

The normal car parking arrangement will continue. The car park is **strictly** only for staff and blue badge holders. If you are a new parent, or your circumstances have changed, and we are unaware that you are a blue badge permit holder, please contact the school office and they can assist you with this. If you are a blue badge permit holder, please ensure that you are parked by 8.35am and able to be remained parked until approximately 9am, as you will be unable to move your car whilst the car park is in use due to safety reasons. The same applies at the end of the school day - please ensure that you are parked by 2.55pm and you are able to remain parked until approximately 3.20pm.

Please ensure that you leave enough time to accompany your child in the morning and in the afternoon. We ask, as always, that you do not park in Hardy Avenue and respect that our residents in Hardy Avenue have full access to their driveways, as they are legally entitled to. Dorset Highways are in regular contact with the school and have asked that you be reminded that there will be a fully functioning CCTV camera in operation covering the school 'keep clear' lines from Monday 8th March. This includes any stopping of a vehicle on the zigzag lines only for a few seconds during 8.30-9.30am and 2.30-3.30pm. Dorset Highways are working closely with Dorset Police to try to ensure Hardy Avenue remains a safe road for both adults and children to use. If you rely upon a taxi to drop-off or collect your child, please ensure that you have fully communicated the guidance and expectations above, i.e. they are fully aware that they cannot park on the zig-zag lines and that it is expected that an adult will collect a child from school. This is to ensure your child's safety and the safety of others.

If you are planning to use Allsorts for Breakfast and/or After-School Club, please ensure that you communicate directly with Allsorts for the provision that you need for wrap-around care. Their provision for this service may well be limited due the latest Government Guidance. Allsorts will continue to communicate directly with us. I am still in the process of planning and appropriately risk assessing after-school club provision. If we are able to offer this, it will be limited as we can only support 'bubble/class' after-school clubs. I will provide you with more information on after-school clubs after Easter.

Please be aware that staff are continuing with their Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing twice weekly and that two voids or a positive will automatically close a bubble. The closure of a bubble/class will be communicated to you on either a Monday or a Thursday evening in preparation for the next day. In addition to this, Government Guidance dated 1 March 2021 states 'if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly LFD test' by following the link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

In addition to this, Plymouth CAST have given staff the option to wear a face covering in the classroom when they are not directly teaching or interacting with children.

We are hoping to instil a sense of normality back into our children and we hope that the roadmap that the Government has outlined is met by us all continuing to support the guidance and milestones that have been communicated. I think it is fair to say that we are now living in 'hope' and that with continued commitment to adhering to Government Guidance, we will endeavour to reach a place where the future looks optimistic.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our frontline working parents for their continued hard work, which has contributed towards our future looking somewhat brighter. I would also like to thank the parents who have supported their child's learning at home despite it being tricky at times. Finally, I am humbled to be supported by such amazing and committed staff, who have endeavoured to provide a comprehensive and interactive education package for all the children - thank you.

Once again, we look forward to seeing you all on Monday, bright-eyed and bushy tailed!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'EBY'.

Emma Berry
Headteacher