



St. Augustine's
Catholic Primary School

Hardy Avenue
Weymouth DT4 0RH
Tel: 01305 782600
Fax: 01305 788038

E-mail: office@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Emma Berry



Thursday, 2nd September 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you enjoyed your summer and managed to make the most of spending time with your family and friends. We are all looking forward to welcoming you and your child(ren) back to school on Monday 6th September.

The school may look a little different from when your child(ren) last saw it as Reception, KS1, the ICT suite, the shared area and KS1 toilets have been decorated throughout the summer by an external company. Mr Gardner has been busy painting the outdoor classroom and parent shelters and the old metal chain-link fencing outside the Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 classrooms has been replaced with a wooden picket-style fence. Mrs Wilkins has been busy working on the school pond and this is very nearly finished. The cleaners are just finishing a deep clean of the whole school ready for the children to return.

In conjunction with the latest Government Guidance for School Operations (last updated 27th August) and in-line with Plymouth CAST MAT guidance, the school risk assessment, control measures, contingency plans and an outbreak management plan for COVID-19 have all been updated and revised. The latest Government Guidance for Schools can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance> and the latest Government Guidance for Parents/Carers can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

The main points from all the documentation are as follows:

- Attendance is mandatory.
- Class bubbles no longer need to be maintained.
- Liturgies, Masses and Assemblies can recommence.
- Lunchtime arrangements no longer need to ensure the maintenance of consistent bubbles.

- Risk assessments and control measures should include the contingency of quickly introducing bubbles for a short period of time in response to a local outbreak.
- Control measures must include:
 - Ensuring good hygiene for everyone.
 - Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes.
 - Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.
 - Following Public Health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Any decision to reintroduce 'bubbles' will be made in consultation with the school's Education Standards Manager (ESM) and the DfE Coronavirus Helpline/Dorset Public Health.
- Close contacts will be identified by NHS Contact and Trace; **education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.**
- Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where a positive case specifically identifies the individual as being in a close contact.
- Children under the age of 18 will no longer need to isolate if contacted by NHS Contact and Trace as a close contact. They should take a PCR test straightaway, and should return to school once a negative test result is received.
- If an individual receives a positive PCR test result, he/she should isolate for a period of 10 full days in line with Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
- In summary: Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:
 - they are fully vaccinated
 - they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
 - they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
 - they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- Face coverings should not be worn by children, staff or visitors in classrooms or communal areas (the Director of Public Health may advise that face coverings are reintroduced if there is an outbreak).
- The Outbreak Management Plan must only be used after consultation with the DfE/Public Health Dorset/Plymouth CAST when the following thresholds have been met:
 - 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or
 - 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period.
- The DfE will provide carbon monoxide monitors for every school.
- Staff are to continue to complete twice weekly LFD testing until at least the end of September when this will be reviewed.
- Educational visits can take place but are subject to local COVID-19 status and after the approval of a thorough risk assessment and control measures.
- Music, Drama and Sports provision can recommence subject to continuing control

measures of:

- Ensuring good hygiene for everyone - hand and respiratory.
- Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes - including frequently touching surfaces, instruments, sports equipment etc.
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.

As a result of the above, we would like to invite the children back into school on Monday 6th September from 8.40-8.55am, reverting back to entry and exit routes as per 'pre-Covid-19'. This will mean that our new Reception children will be invited into their new classroom with an adult for the first two-weeks (during their transitional period); thereafter we ask that an adult drops them off at the Reception Foyer door (Allsorts entrance) where they will be greeted by a member of the Reception Staff team. At 3.15pm Mrs Evans, or a member of the Reception Staff team, will bring your child to the Reception Foyer door and reunite you.

The Year 1 children will be greeted by Miss Mayes, or a member of the Year 1 Staff team at the Reception Foyer door between 8.40-8.55am. Miss Mayes, or a member of the Year 1 team, will bring the children to the same door (Reception Foyer/Allsorts entrance) at 3.15pm and dismiss the children to an appropriate adult.

Children in Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 will be greeted by myself at the blue Chapel doors and welcomed into school between 8.40-8.55am. I will happily take messages from you and deliver them to your child's class teacher once the doors have been locked at 8.55am. Mrs Wilkins will support the Year 2 children to their classroom to ensure that they can remember where they need to go. We ask that all children in Years 2,3,4,5 and 6 walk around the school corridors to their appropriate classrooms and do not walk through the school hall (Year 6 children will be on hand to support with this.) Any late arrivals must report to the school office. Please remember that 'lates' do effect attendance rates so please do try to avoid this.

At 3.15pm Year 2 and Year 3 will be dismissed by the Class Teacher, or a member of the class team via the same blue Chapel doors on entry. Years 4, 5 and 6 will be walked around the back of the school and dismissed at the wooden Allsorts gate at 3.15pm by an appropriate member of staff. **Year 4 children will be handed directly to a known adult.** Year 5 and Year 6 will either be dismissed straightaway at the gate at 3.15pm, or handed to an adult as per requested by the appropriate parent/guardian. Year 5 will be sent a Parentmail shortly to ascertain these details. We will assume that **Year 6 collection arrangements** (i.e. walking by themselves or being handed directly to an adult) will **remain the same as before the summer, unless communicated otherwise** (please email the school office).

Children attending Allsorts Breakfast Club will be escorted to their appropriate classes through school by a member of the Allsorts' Staff team and children attending Allsorts Afterschool Club will be collected by Allsorts Staff in the corridor outside the Year 1

Classroom. Please ensure that you book before/after school provision directly with Allsorts (01305 750444) and they will communicate this with the school appropriately.

The children will resume a normal breaktime of 10.30-10.45am and will also resume an hour for lunch. Children will continue to eat in their classrooms and go outside for their playtimes. The astro-pitch will be timetabled to ensure a fair allocation of time and use of equipment.

As per communication before the summer holidays, please ensure that your child is wearing the appropriate school uniform and shoes. The school uniform policy can be found here: <http://www.staugustines.dorset.sch.uk/website/policies/69157>. Please ensure that all uniform (including PE kits, lunchboxes and drink bottles) are clearly labelled. If you would like to communicate to your child's class teacher via email please email: office@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk and office staff will forward your email on, or if you would like to speak to your child's class teacher directly, please speak to them at the end of the school day, or call the school office and your message will be passed on to them.

Please be reminded that if your child has a medical condition, all up-to-date medication is brought into school on Monday 6th September as we will not be allowed to administer medication which has expired. If your child has developed a new medical condition over the summer, please can you complete the 'Medical Need to Know' Form found here: http://www.staugustines.dorset.sch.uk/storage/secure_download/aXRzVFkvRW01VGR2S0FMaWxVY1QwQT09. Please email this form directly to office@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk and office staff will disseminate appropriately.

The school carpark remains a 'staff only' car park **unless** you are a blue disabled badge holder. The carpark gates will be closed during the following times: 8.30am-3.30pm. Please ensure that you respectfully do not park over any residential drives or block access down Hardy Avenue and that you adhere to the parking restrictions. New Blue disabled badge holders may apply in person to the School Office for a school carpark permit (there is no need to re-apply if you already hold a school carpark permit), which will enable access to the carpark at the follows times:

8.30-8.35am - Enter carpark
9.05am - Exit carpark
3.00-3.05pm - Enter carpark
3.25pm - Exit carpark

Please be rest assured that staff are looking forward to returning to some sort of 'normality' and would welcome a less disjointed academic year for all. You will receive further communication from your child's Class Teacher via a welcome letter and further communication about after-school clubs shortly.

In the meantime, I look forward in seeing you all on Monday 6th September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'EBY' with a stylized flourish underneath.

Mrs Emma Berry
(Head teacher)