



# ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Following Jesus As We Live And Learn Together

16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your families continue to be well. We have enjoyed being back in school since 29<sup>th</sup> June but we are also grateful to you for the tremendous work you have done with learning at home. The work we have seen has been of such a high standard; please do not do yourselves a disservice by thinking your children have 'missed out' in the last four months. We recognise they have missed their friends and much of the social aspect of school life, we understand this will have been a difficult time for many children, but please also recognise you have done a wonderful job. Thank you.

As you have seen in the news, following Kirsty Williams' address on Thursday, schools will reopen in September for all year groups, full time. We are delighted and thrilled to hear this announcement. In line with all schools in Swansea, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September will be a preparation day and we will reopen to pupils from Reception to Y6 on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Nursery pupils will start a staggered entry from Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

What will the reopening look like and what protective measures will be in place?

- We will minimise contact between individuals wherever possible. For younger learners, the emphasis will be on separating groups, and for older learners it will be on distancing.
- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have COVID-19 symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Continue enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.
- Where possible ensure appropriate ventilation

Keeping children to their own class group at all times will not be easy particularly if parents require wrap around care. Therefore, I am asking that you only use breakfast club and after school club if it is absolutely necessary. We are awaiting further guidance regarding school buses and our minibus, but it is my understanding that they will run as normal. Welsh Government guidance states that if you choose for your child to wear a face mask on their journey to school, they should take it off once in school. We ask you to please show your child the correct way to take off their mask to avoid transmission of germs from their hands.

We have prepared a detailed action plan and risk assessment around our opening. This has been completed with the Local Authority, the Senior Leadership Team, the Governing Board and our contracted Health and Safety Officers.

**Headteacher: Mrs Angela Heald**

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We have created a timetable which will allow for:

- Staggered breaktimes and lunchtimes
- Designated pick up and drop off times for parents/carers
- Increased cleaning
- A clear protocol in case staff or children show symptoms of Covid-19

## Arrangements for drop off and collection:

As already established over the last three weeks, all parents should maintain appropriate social distancing when waiting to drop off or collect children from school. Please can you ensure you drop off and collect from school on time, limiting any early collections for emergency circumstances only.

Also, if your child is going to be absent from school, please notify us by 9.00am.

## Reception children

Reception children should be brought to the reception playground through the grey gate on Convent Street. Their teacher will meet them in the playground and they will enter reception class through the door at the far end of the playground. This will be from 08:30am during the first few days, reverting to normal time of 08:40 by 14<sup>th</sup> September. Children should be collected from the reception playground at 3:10pm.

## Year 1/2 children

Year 1/2 children will come into school through the black gate on Convent Street which will be open from 08:30 during the first few days, reverting to normal time of 08:40 by 14<sup>th</sup> September. Children should be collected from the Year 1/2 playground at 3:15pm. Please avoid using the entrance near the learning pod on Caepistyll Street (unless you have a pushchair) as this will be a designated area for year 3 children

## Year 3 children

Year 3 children will come into school through the gate near the learning pod fire exit on Caepistyll Street. Their teacher will be there to meet them. This will be from 08:40. They can be collected from the same location at 3:20pm.

## Year 4 children

Year 4 children will come into school through the door to the left of the main entrance on Caepistyll Street. Their teacher will be there to meet them. This will be from 08:40. They can be collected from the same location at 3:20pm.



Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes



Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach - Rhwydwaith Cymru

**Headteacher: Mrs Angela Heald**

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## Year 5 children

Year 5 children will come into school through the basement entrance near the corner of Llangyfelach Street and Caepistyll Street. Their teacher will be there to meet them. This will be from 08:40. They can be collected from the same location at 3:25pm.

## Year 6 children

Year 6 children will come into school through the main entrance on Caepistyll Street. Their teacher will be there to meet them. This will be from 08:40. They can be collected from the same location at 3:25pm.

## School bus/minibus

Children who travel on the school bus or minibus will come directly into school. They will not go into breakfast club so please ensure they have breakfast before coming to school. At the end of the day, they will be escorted directly onto their bus.

## Shared spaces

Our main aim at all times will be to keep children in their own class groups. In breakfast club, children will sit at a table where only children from their own class will be able to share the table. Food will be brought to the table. There will be no hot lunches for the first two weeks of school all children will need to bring a packed lunch and will eat this in their classroom.

Playtimes will be staggered in the morning. Children will be able to play outside with those from their class. Afternoon breaks will be taken when needed.

## Hygiene

On entry to school, and at key points during the day, all children will wash their hands supervised by staff. We will also provide hand sanitiser. We will provide all necessary equipment for the classroom and we ask that children only bring a named clear water bottle to school, a small bag with their lunch/snacks and their daily diary and reading book. Children must be able to put their own belongings in their locker so please do not send in large bags which will be difficult to fit in their own space. Toilets will be designated for particular phase groups and there will be a one way system in school to avoid congestion in corridors. Frequent touch points will be cleaned throughout the day.



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## PE

We will inform you of PE days and until October half term, we are asking that children come to school dressed in their PE kit on their designated PE day. This will avoid staff having to compromise the 2 metre rule when supporting children with ties, buttons and shoe laces.

## Clubs and activities

Unfortunately, we will be unable to run any extra curricular clubs or activities until further notice. We will be planning our school calendar on the preparation day which will include further details relevant to each year group. This will be sent home with your child during the first week of term.

We want to bring as much normality to the school day as we can, within the constraints we have in place. By maintaining good hygiene, social distancing between staff and between children with staff, we hope that we will all continue to be well. We must reinforce that if your child or anyone in your household is unwell with the symptoms of Covid 19, children must not come into school. All non essential visits to school continue to be restricted, but we encourage you to contact us via email or telephone, if you wish to speak with myself or your child's teacher.

And lastly, can I once again say thank you for your continued support and understanding throughout all of this. It has not been without its challenges but I do believe, in lots of different ways, it has made our school community even stronger and something we should all be very proud of.

We look forward to welcoming all children back in September, enjoy your summer holidays.

With best wishes,

Angela Heald  
Headteacher



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