



25 February 2021

Dear Parent/carer,

Welcoming Everyone Back To School 8 March 2021

As you will be aware the Government have directed us to welcome everyone back to school on Monday 8th March 2021. We are so looking forward to having everyone be able to return and providing that we have enough staff able to be on site then it will be all systems go as from Monday 8th March 2021.

In the main, school will continue to run with the existing safety measures that we had in place last term (a reminder of which is detailed in this letter) with the addition that all adults when anywhere (indoor and outdoor) on the school site, MUST wear a face covering (unless exempt). Please ensure that you communicate this information to anyone who may be dropping off or collecting your child.

Unfortunately we are still unable to run Sunshine Club or offer any after school provision until further notice.

It is essential that your child returns to school well. If he/she or any member of your family displays COVID-19 symptoms then please isolate at home as per the guidance and arrange for a COVID-19 test, your child will be able to return to school if the test is negative. However you must also inform us if the test is positive so that we can take the necessary steps in school in order to be able to care appropriately for our school community.

We will continue to operate with our established bubble system and please remember that your child's bubble may have to switch to home learning at short notice to stop the transmission of COVID-19. School staff are now undertaking twice weekly asymptomatic COVID-19 tests; so your child's bubble will have to switch to home learning if school staff are required to self-isolate.

Here is a reminder of the bubble drop off/collection times, please adhere to these times unless you have received authorisation to drop off and/or collect your child at a different time to their bubble drop off/collection times.

Nursery Pupils (Miss Wright's class)

Morning - Drop off at 8.30am and collection at 11.30am. Afternoon – Drop off at 12.30pm and collection at 3.30pm **Entry- Front Nursery Entrance** via one way system ie main Reception entrance, queuing system along the path, exit via front school car park gate.

Reception Pupils (Mrs Hooper's class)

Drop off at 9.00am and collection at 2.30pm. **Entry - Front Reception Entrance** via one way system ie main Reception entrance queuing system along the path, exit via front school car park gate.

Y1/Y2 Pupils (Miss Marshall's and Givens' classes) Drop off at 8.45am and collection at 2.30pm **Entry – Side Car Park Gates (next to usual path entrance)** via one way system ie Side Car Park Gates and then exit via side path, queuing system in the side car park and then exit via side path. Children will be directed into school by school staff in the morning and then returned to this point at collection time.

Y3/Y4/Y5 Pupils (Miss Carrie's, Miss Murray's and Miss Stone's classes) Drop off at 9.05am and collection at 2.50pm **Entry – Side Car Park Gates (next to usual path entrance)** via one way system ie Side Car Park Gates and then exit via side path, queuing system in the side car park and then exit via side path. Children will be directed into school by school staff in the morning and then returned to this point at collection time.

Y6/5 and Y6 Pupils (Mrs Teer's and Mr Moran's classes) Drop off at 9.20am and collection at 3.15pm. **Entry – Side Car Park Gates (next to usual path entrance)** via one way system ie Side Car Park Gates and then exit via side path, queuing system in the side car park and then exit via side path. Children will be directed into school by school staff in the morning and then returned to this point at



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collection time.

As these one way systems do involve using the car park gates and areas that are usually out of bounds, please remember to take extra care; we have informed everyone that there is no traffic access/exit at drop off/collection times but sadly not everyone always takes notice of our signage and information so everyone needs to be especially vigilant.

(NB Pupils in Y5/Y6 are allowed to leave the site independently but the relevant consent form must have been completed beforehand.)

Just to remind everyone that you MUST keep to your allocated times. Please note there will be not be waiting allowed on the school playground area. We will need to continue to adhere to these times whatever the weather – so remember to dress accordingly in inclement weather! Unfortunately we will not be able to allow early access to the site, as we usually do.

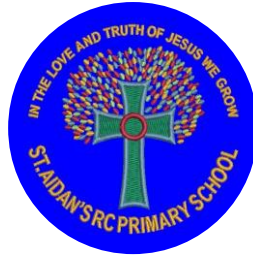
If for some reason you are late then you will need to use the main reception area, please bear in mind that only one family can be in the Reception area at a time and there will be a socially distanced queuing system also.

REMINDERS OF MEASURES IN PLACE

- The building is thoroughly cleaned and all inspected before opening and throughout the day.
- Staggered drop off and pick up times, use of all gates and clear markings and signs will be in place to ensure distancing.
- All adults to wear face coverings on the school site both indoor and outdoor.
- Frequent handwashing (on entry to school and before and after break and lunch as a minimum).
- There is sanitiser in all classrooms where there is no access to a sink and in all public areas.
- Only approved visitors are allowed access (parent/carers are not be permitted in the building. Telephone appointments with staff will be available. If you have a message for a member of staff the preferred option will be to email admin@st-aidans.northumberland.sch.uk or ring the school office if you are unable to email).
- Door wedges in all classrooms to ensure good ventilation.
- Lidded bins in all classrooms and public areas to ensure used tissues and paper towels are contained safely.
- The full risk assessment is reviewed regularly to ensure all safety measures are in place and meet the requirements for Coronavirus management. (Please see http://www.st-aidans.northumberland.sch.uk/website/covid-19_documentation/503023)
- Fire evacuation routes and assembly points have been reviewed to provide safe and rapid evacuation of the building whilst minimising contact between bubbles.
- All items which cannot be easily cleaned at the end of each day have been removed from classrooms.
- All staff have hand sanitiser and spray bottles of anti-viral cleaner for use during the day.
- Reminder signs for hand washing and distancing are in place.
- Personal Protective Equipment is in place at all First Aid Stations and around the school for use when dealing with illness or injuries.
- Instructions on safe use of PPE are on display.

Uniform and Equipment

- Children should wear their normal school uniform. They may bring coats and hats.
- Children will be provided with all of the equipment they will need for the day.
- Children **should not** bring school bags into school until further notice. They may bring in their book bag **ONLY**.
- Children may bring water bottles and packed lunch boxes. Water bottles (please remember that these should only contain fresh clean water) will stay on their desks and packed lunches in their classrooms. Water bottles should be taken home and



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washed each night. Packed lunch boxes should be wiped down with hot soapy water. If you prefer you can use a disposable paper bag for packed lunches.

- Please remember the school policy that **NO** jewellery must be worn.

PE

Children should come into school in their PE kit on the days that they have PE and we will keep you informed via ParentMail and our Facebook page of when these days are.

Equipment cannot be shared so this means no equipment that travels or is passed from hand to hand can be used. For now this means no organised contact activities such as team games but we will continue to provide lots of exciting challenges and activities that can be carried out safely.

These may include dance, personal physical, strength based or flexibility based challenges, running, skipping, jogging activities such as free running and personal time challenges.

Breaks and Lunchtimes

Breaks will continue to be staggered and we will make use of all of the spaces around school so that all Key Stage bubbles can play separately.

Children (except for Reception who will use the dining hall) will eat lunch in their classrooms.

Universal free school meals will resume for all Reception, Year One and Year Two pupils and will continue for children on benefits related free meals throughout the school. We are now able to provide a hot meal option, which is served to the children in individual disposable containers. Our school meals are delicious and those children that have been in school since the beginning of term are really enjoying the new and improved lunches. So please let your child have the opportunity to try the meals and save yourself the hassle of making up a packed lunch every day. Meals can be ordered on School Grid as normal.

Each Key Stage bubble has designated toilets and an allocated time and outside area to avoid mixing groups.

It continues to be essential that everyone adheres to the measures inside and outside of school so that we can do our utmost to minimise risks for everyone and stop transmission of COVID-19 wherever we can. Safety of our staff must also remain a priority, given they are spending long times with a lot of people with minimal social distancing at times. Prior to Christmas, we were made aware of some instances where there have been children/families mixing outside of school/sharing transportation/congregating outside of the school gates and not self-isolating when required to. Although this may be only a small amount of cases, this is exactly how transmission takes place and given that transmission rates with the latest variants are much higher than previously, then everyone **MUST do everything they can to stop transmission.**

If you have any questions at all please contact me at admin@st-aidans.northumberland.sch.uk.

Thank you once again for your understanding, patience, support and hard work during the past few months.

God Bless

Mrs Leslie

Head teacher.