



# The March Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher : Mrs Nicky Metcalfe BA Ed QTS (Hons) NPQH

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope that you are all well and that the children are too. We are so looking forward to welcoming ALL the children back in September.

I can't wait to see them all and are so pleased that the Government guidelines allow their safe return to school. It has been a long time since we have seen some of them but we are so proud of them for keeping safe and working hard at home. Thank you for your support with this, I know that it has been hard work.

Below are our plans for the September return. **Please note that these are subject to any changes to relevant guidance from the Government during the school holidays .**

Please be assured that I, the Trust, Governors, and all staff at The March CE Primary are working tirelessly to prepare for the September 3<sup>rd</sup> opening to ensure the safety of our staff and pupils and meet the government's published guidance.

| Date                           | Group  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sep 2020 | <b>All year groups to return for the start of the term.<br/>The first 2 days will be key to the start of term for each year group, setting routines, expectations and showing the children what to do in the new set up.</b> |

## **What will classes look like?**

In line with government advice, the following will be put in place when schools reopen:

- **Class size**  
The children will be taught in their year groups every day.
- **Class rooms**  
The children will be seated at a front facing desk with another child. These pairings can change each week to ensure that the children have different talk partners.
- **Staffing**  
To maintain the 'bubble' as required by the guidance, groups will be taught by a class teacher and not be able to mix. Please note they will have their class teacher and TA with them each day. The PPA teacher this year is Mrs Swindells and she will teach some of the classes on alternate weeks for music and French.
- **Learning**



The children will continue their learning in the classes for English and Maths. We will also be continuing all National Curriculum subjects alongside regular PE and wellbeing activities/PSHE. Please note that there will be no swimming in the first term until we are assured of the swimming regulations.

- The children will need to be in school full time from the 3<sup>rd</sup> September . They will need to be picked up at the designated time. We are unable to accommodate collection during the school day, due to the limitations of movement around the school and mixing of the safety bubbles.

### **How will the school ensure you maintain high levels of hygiene?**

- **On arrival and departure**  
All the children will apply hand gel on arrival and at departure from school.
- **Handwashing**  
Children will wash hands before and after break and lunch times. We have invested in portable sinks for use on the playground.
- **Cleaning and Deep clean**  
The school will be cleaned daily and undergo a deep clean every afternoon.

### **What about breaktimes and lunches?**

- **Timing**  
Break times and lunchtimes will be staggered to maintain the safety 'bubble'. Children will remain with their group at all times. EYFS Yr 1 2 & 3 will eat 12- 12.30pm then go out to play. Yr 4 5 & 6 will play first 12-12.30pm and then eat 12.30 -1pm.
- **Lunch**  
If your child is entitled to free school meals or universal infant free school meals, they will be provided with a hot meal. All year groups will have designated tables and these will remain the same each day.
- **Snacks**  
We encourage you to bring a healthy snack to eat at breaktime i.e. fruit, fruit bar, chopped veggies etc. The children may be hungry at the start once trying to get back into routine.

### **What about Toilets?**

- In order to facilitate there being a suitable number of toilets and wash stations for pupils, the school will temporarily create gender-neutral toilets. We acknowledge that this can often generate some concerns from children and parents, and we would like to reassure parents that only one child will be allowed to use the toilets at a time, irrespective of gender.

### **What time will school Start and End?**

The school day will start and end with staggered times. To ensure all children and adults are kept safe we ask and expect:

- Parents/carers to keep to the given times below – This is essential
- **Only one family member** may enter the school site when dropping or collecting your child.

| Year               | Drop off Time | Collection Time | Location   |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| EYFS<br>Yr 1 2 & 3 | 8.30 -8.45    | 2.50 – 3.05     | EYFS Red gate to the small playground<br><br>Year 1 Entrance by the office door<br><br>Year 2 Office entrance<br><br>Year 3 Lower Hall door. |
| Year               | Drop off Time | Collection Time | Location   |
| Year 4 5 & 6       | 8.50 – 9.05   | 3.10 – 3.20     | Year 4 Office Entrance<br><br>year 5 Red gate to the small playground<br><br>Lower Front hall door Year 6                                    |

- **It is essential that you are here during your allocated times. Anyone late will have to wait for the next bubble to leave.**
- Please return to you cars to wait between drop offs and pickups.
- **All adults MUST** observe social distancing between themselves and other children to ensure the safety of the bubbles and minimise possible transmission risks.
- There will be no staff cars in the car park to ensure adequate space for waiting parents

#### **What do my children need to bring anything with them?**

- **Cups and bottles**  
Please ensure your child has a water bottle with them at school. Please note we will be unable to provide cups.
- **Uniform**  
We request that all the children arrive in full school uniform. The children will need their PE kit in school every day and will take this home on a Friday for washing.
- **Equipment**  
The children In Year 1 – 6 will need to bring in a pencil case with pencils, colouring pencils and glue stick. These will need to stay in school at their desk.
- **School bag**  
The children can bring a school bag with them but please keep this as small as possible to fit in their lockers
- **Reading**  
Children’s reading record and reading book will stay in school so we can hear them read each day.

#### **What is my child has an underlying health condition or is asthmatic?**

- Please consult your doctor or medical professional for advice before returning to school

### **What if someone in my household is clinically vulnerable?**

- Please note that we are doing our very best to ensure social distancing in a primary school setting, but this may not always be guaranteed with younger children. Please speak to your children before returning to school about social distancing

### **What about transport?**

- We are still awaiting information about transport from Oving Village. At the time of writing, this has not been confirmed. As soon as we know, I will make contact with you over the summer with the safety procedures for this. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safer travel guidance for passengers](#)
- Please note that you should not be sharing lifts between parents to ensure the safety of the bubbles in school and each other.
- If you live near the school could we please encourage you to walk or cycle to school due to the fact that we will have more cars on the road and in the car park in September

### **What do I do if my child is unwell?**

- If your child is displaying symptoms of Covid 19 you will need to take them for a test.
- You MUST let the school know that you are doing this.
- Your child cannot return until they have the results for the test.
- If the test is negative they can return.
- Please note that if you are waiting for the results you child cannot return to school . You must show the school a copy of the results either via email or on your phone before they can return

### **What about after school clubs and Wrap around care.**

- After school clubs run by teachers will NOT start this term as the school has to be thoroughly cleaned each afternoon. Outside providers may start clubs again but we are awaiting confirmation of this
- Wrap around care WILL start but we will be limiting numbers attending. Please ensure you have booked online and prepaid for this. We are unable to take last minute bookings at the office. Bookings close at 8pm every Sunday night for the week ahead.

Apologies for the long letter but we wanted to ensure that as many of your questions may be answered as possible for a great start to September 2020.

As I have said in previous letters if any school says that something is not possible, even if it appears possible for the school down the road, then please trust that it is not always possible for us. We are all hoping that we get back to a new normal as soon as we can but some things will have to change as we all move and work together. Please continue to support us as with navigating this next chapter.

I hope that you all have a wonderful summer break together

**Keep safe and take care**

*Mrs N Metcalfe*

**Head Teacher**