



St Stephen's Catholic Primary School

'Working together to succeed, through faith in Jesus Christ'

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Accompanying this letter is a guidance booklet informing you of our plans for reopening school in September. The information is designed to help you plan ahead with your family as we get ready in school to welcome all pupils to full time education as of Thursday 3rd September from 8.30am onwards. As you are all aware, information and guidance can change quite suddenly so please be note that these plans may change so I ask that you keep an eye on the school website and the school app for any information that may change over the summer holidays.

It feels strange to mention the summer holidays after the unprecedented times we have been through and continue to endure. However, as this unforgettable school year comes to a close both myself and the staff team are looking forward to having our children back in school. We have missed them terribly and enjoyed checking in with them via key worker provision, class bubbles, transition visits, telephone calls, online learning and social media. Our children never cease to amaze us with their positivity and resilience which has been a tonic during these tough times.

I offer our gratitude to our parents/carers who began new careers in March as 'home schoolers' to their children. A new experience for everyone but tough going when you are trying to work full time, run a home, feed the children, log on to Spelling Shed or Tapestry, keep the little ones entertained and from killing each other! Family life, school life and work life merging together was never going to be easy but from the communications we have had with our families it is clear that everyone has done their best and worked to the same goal – keeping safe and well. Well done to you all and try and enjoy a rest over the summer (if not in September!)

My final thanks goes to my staff team. Their commitment and dedication has been superb during these last few months. The support they have shown to the children and families in school as well as providing weekly learning activities, whether that be at home or school, has made a real difference. As a team, they have risen to the challenges and demands a global pandemic has brought and through their various roles and responsibilities have always put our children at the heart of everything we do.

I am proud to be the headteacher of St. Stephen's leading such a wonderful community of pupils, staff and families. I hope everyone has a lovely summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in September for the new school year. As always, take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Hatton

