



# Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School

*Loved by God; United in Learning*

Headteacher: Scott Tait

Deputy Headteacher: Lizzie Sharpe

*Love, Unity,  
Courage  
and Inspiration*

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

Can I start by applauding the children and their positive start to the academic year. When in school they are an absolute credit to our community. Their readiness for learning has been exceptional. Our children want and need routine and I am so pleased that our staff have been able to offer this with high expectations, together with a calm nurturing approach.

The first day back combined a transition to new year groups and class teachers. This was hugely beneficial for us as a school and the overwhelming positivity from you as families has supported this decision – this has aided a smooth start to our school year.

In all honesty our only challenge has come at the end of the school day when children are collected. We chose to operate a system that worked so very well throughout lockdown and partial school closure. However, this week has brought it challenges. A minority of families have found the one way system challenging – whilst I do not want to change a system for the minority I do have to consider the health and safety of my staff and our children and their wider families. Amongst our community we do have people that are extremely clinically vulnerable. With COVID-19 cases on the rise locally and nationally, together with new guidance from the government we do have to tweak our pick up and drop off arrangement.

## **NEW PICK UP AND DROP OFF ARRANGEMENTS** **FROM THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Please try to limit the number of adults dropping off children to 1 adult per family.**

### **Key Stage 1 – Year 1 and 2**

**Please use the Blue Gates at the front of the school to drop off (@ 8.50am – 9am) and collect your children (@ 3pm)**



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### Lower Key Stage 2 – Year 3 and 4

Please use the Grey Gates at the front of the school to drop off (@ 8.40am – 8.50am) and collect your children (@ 3.15pm)



### Upper Key Stage 2 – Year 5 and 6

Please use the Green Gates at the back of the school to drop off (@ 8.40am – 8.50am) and collect your children (@ 3.15pm) If you use the drop off zone and drive to school you can continue to drop off in the mornings using the Blue Gates at the front of the school.



These new arrangements will help to segregate bubble/year groups the best we can.

### Exceptions

- Blue Badge holders can continue to use the Blue and Grey Gates
- Pregnant Mothers and those with underlying health issues can also continue to use the Blue and Grey Gates
- If you wish to drop off/collect siblings with different start and finish times at the same time, then you must drop off at the earliest time and pick up at the latest via the gate available to you family. This is so that older children do not miss out on learning in their class from arriving later or being picked up earlier. Key Stage 2 children will not be released early from class. Key Stage 1 staff will be in their classrooms to receive children earlier or supervise children after the collection times if parents are collecting an older sibling.

As per the letter sent home regarding the children in Years 5 and 6 leaving the school site independently, we will only release a child with a sign consent form that needs to be completed and handed to the class teacher. For Year 4 children we will only release a child to meet a younger sibling and/or assigned gate to meet a family member if we have a signed consent form. Children in these year groups do not have to

walk home independently. This is a choice for families to make, the same as in previous years. Children leaving school independently must use their assigned year group gate.

If you have any questions please do ask a member of the Headship Team and we will do our best to explain and support you. All our decisions are planned and well thought out and we do hold the bigger picture that you are not always aware of.

Ultimately, we are considered a place of mass gathering during Drop Off and Pick Up times. Whilst I totally appreciate there is some inconvenience with these arrangements... we feel that the changes are needed in order for us to control the virus and remain open.

Your children need to be in school and we want your children in school but we need to remain open to do this.

Many thanks for your understanding and anticipated support.

Mr Tait  
Headteacher