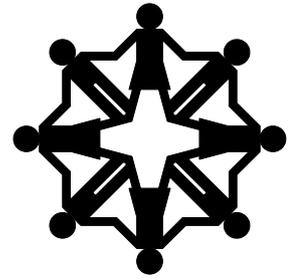


All Saints' C of E Primary School

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All believing, all achieving

Friday 10th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We think of you all every day and are sending out our love to you.

It has been a very challenging time for all of us as we have not seen so many of our pupils and families since March 2020. Nevertheless we have tried to keep in touch with you all as much as possible through Dojo, emails and phone calls and some of you in person.

With the government announcement that schools are to “fully” open as from September 2020, we know there may still be some apprehension in the midst of the need to get back to some normality.

Below is a summary of the latest guidance for schools which we will maintain here at All Saints. However, we will keep you informed on any changes or updates over the summer and of course nearer the time we may have specific instructions for year groups as we have to come back to school. That official date is Monday 7th September 2020.

Please take time to read below the guidelines summary:

Government Guidance – Schools Opening September 2020

- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (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
- Enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach
- Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible (the government states that 2 metre social distance is no longer required between pupils in school)

Grouping children

Whatever the size of the group, pupils should be kept apart from other groups where possible and older children should be encouraged to keep their distance within groups.

Schools with the capability to do it should take steps to limit interaction, sharing of rooms and social spaces between groups as much as possible. We recognise that younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group.

Some schools may keep children in their class groups for the majority of the classroom time, but also allow mixing into wider groups for specialist teaching,

Measures within the classroom

Maintaining a distance between people whilst inside and reducing the amount of time they are in face to face to contact lowers the risk of transmission.

Ideally, adults should maintain 2 metre distance from each other, and from children. We know that this is not always possible, particularly when working with younger children, but if adults can do this when circumstances allow that will help. In particular, they should avoid close face to face contact and minimise time spent within 1 metre of anyone.

For children old enough, they should also be supported to maintain distance and not touch staff and their peers where possible. This will not be possible for the youngest children and some children with complex needs and it is not feasible in some schools where space does not allow. Schools doing this where they can, and even doing this some of the time, will help.

Schools should make small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible. That should include seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on, and might include moving unnecessary furniture out of classrooms to make more space.

Measures elsewhere

Schools should avoid large gatherings such as assemblies or collective worship with more than one group.

When timetabling, groups should be kept apart and movement around the school site kept to a minimum. While passing briefly in the corridor or playground is low risk, schools should avoid creating busy corridors, entrances and exits.

Measures for arriving at and leaving school

Collection: gathering at the school gates and otherwise coming onto the site without an appointment is not allowed.

If travelling by public transport, pupils should remove face coverings when they arrive at school. Pupils must be instructed not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing them. They must wash their hands immediately on arrival (as is the case for all pupils), dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom. Guidance on [safe working in education, childcare and children's social care](#) provides more advice.

Other considerations

For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, it is recommended that pupils have their own items that are not shared.

It is still recommended that pupils limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day, to essentials such as lunch (disposable bags), hats, coats, and mobile phones.

Attendance expectations for September 2020

In March when the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was increasing, we made clear no parent would be penalised or sanctioned for their child's non-attendance at school.

Now the circumstances have changed and it is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term.

Pupils who are shielding or self-isolating

We now know much more about coronavirus (COVID-19) and so in future there will be far fewer children and young people advised to shield whenever community transmission rates are high. Therefore, the majority of pupils will be able to return to school. You should note however that:

- a small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves; or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- Shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1 August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding. Read the [current advice on shielding](#)
- some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school in September (usually at their next planned clinical appointment). You can find more advice from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

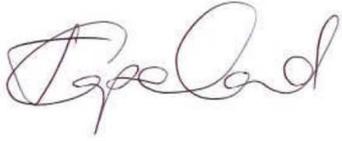
Where a pupil is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice, we expect schools to be able to immediately offer them access to school work.

Where children can't attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised.

We very much look forward to seeing a full school again in September and we continue to pray for those who have suffered, are suffering and for this pandemic to significantly decrease.

Every Blessing to you all

Yours sincerely,



Josephine Copeland
Headteacher