



**St Teresa of Calcutta
Roman Catholic
Multi Academy Trust**



*St Patrick's RC Primary School
Foxholes Road,
Rochdale*

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13th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Opening of School September 2020

I am sure you are aware by now that the government is asking schools to fully reopen in September. We have been making plans and we now feel we are ready for all children to return to our safe and happy environment. We have been asked to group the children into bubbles. This will allow the track and trace system to operate should we get a positive Covid result at any point in school. So far, we have been very lucky and we have not had a single positive test amongst staff and children.

On **Wednesday, 2nd September, 2020 all pupils from Years 1 to 6 will return.** We have already informed you which class your child will be in next year and which teachers will be teaching each class. Pupils starting in September in Foundation Stage are being written to separately about their staggered start to the school year. Classes next year continue to be mixed ability, all children have been separated into different classes taking into consideration many factors. Pupils of all abilities have been equally spread across classes.

From September we will be having four bubbles, we will be referring to them as Units:

Unit 1	Foundation Stage
Unit 2	Years 1 and 2
Unit 3	Years 3 and 4
Unit 4	Years 5 and 6

The idea of these bubbles is to minimise contact with lots of individuals around school. As the children are in Units, we would know which children and adults would need to be informed if we had a positive Covid case in school.

Wrap Around Care

Breakfast and After School Club will reopen in September in the usual way. All parents who require Wrap Around Care provision will be able to apply for a place. Contract, Terms and Conditions as well as a copy of the Charging Policy will be available on the school website before September. Parents will be able to complete the electronic forms and an email of confirmation will be sent once processed. As previously communicated, I will be managing the Wrap Around Care provision for the time being.

Pupils accessing the Breakfast and After School Club will be cared for in the Parish Room and the school hall. The area will be divided into four sections, one for each Unit. Pupils from each Unit will be asked to stay within their section of the hall or parish room. Staff will supervise pupils and serve food to their allocated Unit within their area of the hall or Parish Room.

Drop Off and Collection Arrangements

All parents are asked to observe the 1+ metres social distancing rules whilst on site. Children must walk sensibly beside their parents and not run around.

Only one parent should bring and collect their child/ren to school. We will continue to operate a one-way system around the school building. Staff will be stationed outside to assist parents and ensure that the one-way system is in operation.

Parents and their children should enter the school site from the gate at the layby. Gates will open at 8:25am and entrances open at 8:30am. Classes have been allocated a drop off and collection slot (see below). A clear pathway has been marked around the site and **MUST** be followed by parents. We ask that parents do not gather and make the drop off and collection of their children as quick as possible to ensure everyone's safety.

From the 7th September, all pupils will be dropped off and collected as indicated below. Information regarding Foundation Stage Induction between 2nd and 5th September is in the next section.

Unit	Year Group	Classroom	Drop Off/Collection Point for Parents	Drop off Time	Collection Time
1	FS	1L	Entrance 1	8:40am	3:10pm
1	FS	1M	Located at the small gate into Foundation Stage outside area.	9:00am	3:30pm
2	Year 1	1T	Entrance 2 Located at Key Stage 1 door	8:30am	3:00pm
2	Year 1/2	2J	Entrance 2 Located at Key Stage 1 door	8:40am	3:20pm
2	Year 2	2A	Entrance 3 Located at 2J External Door	8:50am	3:20pm
3	Year 3/4	4P	Entrance 4 Located at 4P External Door	8:50am	3:20pm
3	Year 3/4	4E	Entrance 5 Located at 4E External Door	9:00am	3:30pm
3	Year 3/4	4A	Entrance 9 Located at 4A External Door	8:30am	3:00pm
4	Year 6	6B	Entrance 6 Located at Key Stage 2 Fire Door	8:30am	3:00pm
4	Year 5/6	6J	Entrance 7 Located at 6J External Door	8:40am	3:10pm
4	Year 5	6F	Entrance 8 Located at 6F External Door	8:50am	3:20pm

If you have siblings with different collection and drop off times you should all arrive at the earliest allocated drop off and the latest allocated pick up time, in order to maximise your child's learning opportunities.

Foundation Stage Induction

On the first three days back in school, the Foundation Stage pupils will attend school for shorter sessions. This will allow the teachers to help all children to settle and assess their starting points. Parents have been given their children AM and PM session for each of the three days.

Morning, AM sessions are:

Class	Drop Off Point for Parents	Drop off Time	Collection Point	Collection Time
1L	Entrance 1	8:40am	Gate to the Right of Main Office	11:20am
1M	Located at the small gate into Foundation Stage outside area.	9:00am		11:40am

Afternoon, PM Sessions are:

Class	Drop Off Point for Parents	Drop off Time	Collection Point	Collection Time
1L	Gate to the Right of Main Office	12:20pm	Entrance 1	3:10pm
1M		12:40pm	Located at the small gate into Foundation Stage outside area.	3:30pm

Meetings with teachers

At the moment, we are not allowing parents into school, unless in extreme circumstances. If parents would like to discuss their child or to arrange an online meeting, please email your child's class teacher, these will all be updated on the class pages before September.

Infection Control

We will ensure surfaces that children and young people are touching, such as toys, books, desks, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets, light switches, bannisters, are cleaned more regularly than normal.

We will make sure all children and staff wash or sanitise their hands on entering school, before break and lunch and before leaving school. They will be taught if they cough or sneeze, they must immediately wash their hands.

Uniform, Coats, Bags, Equipment and Water Bottles

Children will need to return to school in full school uniform. Children must tie up their hair and only wear stud earrings, these should be removed on PE days and left at home. PE kits and book bags will be allowed to be brought into school. Children will store coats, PE bags and book bags in the cloakroom area. Lunchboxes can be brought into school and will be stored on the lunchbox trolleys. Children are advised to bring a bottle of water to school each day and can bring basic equipment such as pencil cases although equipment will continue to be provided to all children.

Lunchtimes

The school kitchen will reopen as normal. Children can bring a packed lunch or book a school meal. Units 1, 2 and 4 will eat as separate Units in the school hall. Unit 3 will eat in their classrooms, the hot trolley will serve school meals within each classroom. Children on Universal Free School Meals in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 will receive a free meal as will those pupils in Units 3 & 4 who are entitled to Free School Meals. The school will stop providing vouchers from September.

Provision of Education

We understand that following the Covid pandemic, children will have missed out on four months of schooling. They will have completed varying amounts of work at home. We will need to create a recovery curriculum, which is structured and adaptable. We will need to be mindful of our school values - as a Catholic school we believe every child is made in the image of God, and therefore we want the best for them. We are committed to providing excellent learning opportunities, promoting achievement and nurturing social, emotional and spiritual well-being. We value our school community as a place where love can flourish.

On the return to school in September, we will reignite the flame for learning by inspiring children to learn through an engaging English unit. This unit will cover learning from the previous year and will build key skills over seven weeks. Phonics, reading and spelling will be taught daily in each class and handwriting at least twice a week to reinforce these skills. It will be important for all children to be reading daily at home for at least fifteen minutes.

We will extend our maths lessons from five per week to seven. The children will follow the Power Maths scheme in Year 1 to 5, Year 6 will be taught using White Rose Maths. Teachers will enhance the learning with lessons which build on the skills from the previous year.

We are fully aware that children may have suffered from anxiety and stressful situations during this lockdown period. With this in mind, we are increasing the number of PSHE lessons taught each week and assemblies will have a PSHE focus. The Come and See (RE), Ten:Ten and Caritas in Action, which we follow in school, will form the basis of this work, complemented by work about St Patrick's Learning Powers and well-being. Children will continue to have at least two hours of PE each week, as we believe that a healthy body leads to a healthy mind. We have chosen to deliver units that are non-contact sports. We will continue to teach two hours of Science each week, starting with those units that should have been delivered in Summer Term. We will also have theme days, DT, Art, History, Geography etc. This is where the children are immersed in a subject for a day, during these days we will teach some of the key knowledge and skills that they have missed over the last four months.

With these changes being made to the timetable, it will mean some subjects will not be taught as regularly as they normally are. After the first half term, we will plan a new timetable and further address gaps in other curriculum areas.

Homework will recommence from the 14th September 2020, this will be Reading, Spelling and Maths.

We are preparing for the event of a second lockdown or local lockdown and we will communicate this to you in September.

As always, children will continue to be rewarded for their efforts and successes will be celebrated. We will restart our assemblies with individual classes. With the support of our families, I know our children and teachers will work hard together to close any gaps in learning and help each child to make progress.

Attendance

It is the Government's expectation that pupils attend school from September. At St Patrick's we actively encourage all children to attend but understand that a minority may have underlying medical conditions or be anxious about their return to school. Please contact the school at office@stpatricksrc.rochdale.sch.uk if this applies to your child.

What to do if your child or a member of your family is unwell

As you will be aware, the guidance from the NHS states that should your child show symptoms such as a high temperature or a new continuous cough or loss of taste or smell as a symptom they should not attend school. When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus in school, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for seven days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for fourteen days. All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to be tested in this scenario. Where a child or household member presents with symptoms at home, they should inform school of their situation. Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation. Pupils identified as showing symptoms at school will be isolated and

parents informed immediately. Parents refusing to complete a test will have to follow the same rules as those who test positive.

What we will do if someone in school contracts Covid-19

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their Unit will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for fourteen days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

I thank you in advance for your co-operation and I wish you all health and happiness.
Please look after one another and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

K Bishop

Mrs Kathryn Bishop
Headteacher