



St Patrick's
Catholic Voluntary Academy

1st March 2021

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY.

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Headteacher: Mrs T Lane



**OUR LADY
OF LOURDES**

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



Wider Opening of School 8th March 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are very much looking forward to having you all back in school, we have missed you and your wonderful children greatly. I must begin by thanking you all for the support and hard work you have shown in working with your children at home during the recent lockdown. Together with school staff, you have worked to ensure the children have missed as little as possible of their education by helping them to complete seesaw learning and live lessons. This has been a huge challenge for you on top of continuing with everyday life and for many of you working from home at the same time. We are excited about having the children back in school and hopefully this will take some pressure off you also. In order to ensure this being the last school closure due to high levels of the virus we ask for your support again in following all the safety measures we put in place from September to keep our school community safe.

Drop Off and Collection Times

Staggered drop off and collection times will resume as before Christmas break. It is essential that you adhere to the allocated time for your child(ren) in order to keep everyone as safe as possible and minimise the risk to the school community. I had a number of complaints from parents last term about a few parents who repeatedly arrived later than their allocated time and they felt they were being put at risk by these parents arriving late and mixing bubbles. Please work with us to keep everyone safe, set off in good time to get here for your allocated time and if you need to wait please distance yourself from other people outside school.

New Arrival and Collection Times

Please stick to these times, do not arrive early or late. Follow the one-way system.

| Classes | Arrival Time | Collection Time |
|---------------|--------------|---|
| Family Groups | 8.45am | 3pm |
| Nursery | 8.45am | 3.15pm full time children 11.45am part time children |
| Reception | 8.45am | 3pm |
| Year 1 | 8.50am | 3.05pm |
| Year 2 | 8.55am | 3.10pm |
| Year 3 | 8.55am | 3.10pm |
| Year 4 | 9am | 3.15pm |
| Year 5 | 9.05am | 3.20pm |
| Year 6 | 8.50am | 3.05pm |

Be Safe. Go straight home, do not gather inside or outside school grounds please.

Wherever possible, one parent only please drop off and collect your own child. Do not send your child with other parents or ask other parents to collect your child unless after discussion with school due to employment needs.

Safety Measures

Please be reassured that we have made school as safe as possible; your child will remain in their class 'bubble' throughout the day. At lunchtime, EYFS & KS 1 bubbles will have their own section in the dinner hall separated from other bubbles. KS 2 children will have lunch served to them in the classroom and from there will enter the playground via the external door for the outdoor break still separate from other class bubbles. There is enhanced cleaning of common touch points and resources throughout the school day. Across key stage 1 and 2, each child has their own stationary, iPad, headphones etc which they will not share with others. There will be some sharing of bigger resources but only between children in their bubble; these resources will be cleaned regularly and children will wash their hands before and after using equipment. Hand sanitiser is available in every room and around school and all children will have regular hand washing/sanitising sessions throughout the day. Staggered start and end of day times and break times for each class bubble and one-way systems around school minimise the contact you and your child will have with others reducing the risk of transmission of the virus. These are just some of the safety measures we have put in place to maintain safety for the children and staff.

What happens if a child becomes ill?

If a child becomes ill whilst at school with any coronavirus symptoms, a new or persistent cough, high temperature, loss or change of sense of smell or taste, we would contact the parent immediately to collect their child. In our school, we have medical rooms set up where the child would be taken and looked after by a first aider until collected. It is very important that we have your up to date contact details and at least one other person we can contact in an emergency. We would ask the parent to get the child tested immediately, explain how to arrange a test and ask for the results as soon as they come back. We will not test children in school. Current government guidance is, the child and family members would then need to stay at home and self-isolate for at least 10 days. Should this happen, we will continue to provide educational materials for the child during this period on Seesaw. I appreciate this may be frustrating if your child is sent home due to a cough etc but we have to follow government guidelines and ensure the safety of all children and adults.

Face Coverings

We follow the government guidance in all areas and have an extensive risk assessment in place. The current government guidance on face masks/coverings is that primary school children do not need to wear a face covering.

Staff in school will wear face coverings on the door to protect you and the children. **Please wear a face covering when dropping off and collecting your child unless you are exempt and if you need to speak to a teacher please call the office rather than speaking on the door and the teacher will call you back.**

We do appreciate that you may have some anxiety about returning your child to school. We are ready and excited to have your child in school to continue their education and see their friends and want you to feel reassured that their safety and wellbeing is our first priority. If you have any concerns please call the school office and arrange a time to speak to their class teacher who will call you back as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Tracy Lane
Headteacher