

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) INFANT SCHOOL

In Partnership with St Andrew's CE (VA) Junior School, St. Martin's Church, the Diocese of Leeds and Calderdale Council

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Brighouse
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26 February 2021

Full opening of School from 8th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you continue to remain safe and well.

As a result of the Government announcement on Monday 22nd February we are looking forward to welcoming **ALL our children back to school from Monday 8th March**. Attendance is statutory, children **MUST** return to school.

The DfE states that the overwhelming evidence is that the risk to children and young people of being out of school increases, the longer restrictions on education are in force. Whilst education settings can be places where transmission occurs, there is no strong evidence of schools driving large-scale community transmission.

Public Health informs us that COVID-19 rates remain high in Calderdale, so whilst we are coming out of lockdown, there is still a lot of COVID-19 in the community. As a result of this, we will continue with the many strategies that we have in place to maximise the safety of everyone.

As previously, children will be **arranged into year group 'bubbles'**, that is to say, they will not mix with children from other year groups whilst in school. We will continue to have staggered start, end times, play and lunchtimes. Children must come independently into the school building.

Each morning, on entering the school building, children will continue to wash their hands before finding their seat in class. Classes will have a thermometer available, so that if any child feels hot or unwell during the day we can take their temperature.

Children must wear their school uniform, but on the day that they have PE they should come to school in their PE kit. Please see next week's Newsletter for PE days.

Where possible, classroom tables will be arranged in rows with children facing the front. Children will sit alongside one other pupil. Staff will continue to be encouraged to maintain a



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safe, socially distanced space from the children and to wash their hands regularly throughout the day.

Site

We will maintain our one-way system around the school site; this will support families to maintain social distancing. We ask that you ALL follow this to ensure the safety of everyone and that only ONE family member comes to collect and drop off your child. **You MUST wear a face covering whilst on the school grounds and keep at a 2 metre distance from other families.**

The whole site has 2m marking on the paths; please encourage your child to follow them. Arrivals and departures have been timed to limit families having to pass each other, hence why it is so important to help us by arriving at your allocated time and leaving site promptly. **Year 1 children and parents must not enter the playground until after 8.50am (unless they have a Year 2 sibling).**



Reception Bubbles Class 1 & 2 using the Classroom Doors

Please can Class 1 enter and leave by Entrance 2 and Class 2 enter and leave by Entrance 1.



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Please wait on the lines on the path, until your child is called to the classroom door. They will wash their hands inside their classroom.

Please use the same arrangements for picking up your children at the end of the day. Once you enter the school grounds, please stand on a white line on the path next to your child's classroom door and wait for them to be brought out and sent to you. Please do not walk around to the playground side of the school for any reason.

Classes 3, 4, 6 using the Hall Door

Families with children in Classes 3, 4 & 6 are asked to enter the site from the small gate onto the playground from Blackburn Road (entrance 3 on the map).

Bring your children down towards the gate and they will then cross the tape line on the playground. We will take their temperatures and they will wash their hands in the new outside sink. The teacher will then walk the Bubble to their classroom.

Having dropped your children off, please can you walk down the side of school past the main entrance and out onto Lightcliffe Road via entrance 2. If you need to return to Blackburn Road, please can you re-enter the school site via Entrance 1, and walk down the other side of school straight out onto Blackburn Road.

Class 5 using their own classroom outside door

Class 5 should enter from Blackburn Road, down the drive to the door and exit the same way.

Bubble	Class	Staff	In/Out	Drop off time	Pick-up time
Reception	1	Miss Hartley	Class 1 door	8:50am	3:05 pm
	2	Miss Burrell	Class 2 door	8:50am	3:05 pm
Year 1	3	Miss Finney	Hall door	8:55am	3:10 pm
	4	Mrs Marsden & Mrs Martin	Hall door	8:55am	3:10 pm
Year 2	5	Mrs Hainsworth	Class 5 door	8:45am	3:00 pm
	6	Miss King	Hall door	8:45am	3:00 pm

We have worked with the Junior School for start/end times but please contact us if you have a problem picking siblings up from both schools.



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School dinners

Reception will have school meals and eat in the hall every day. Year 1 and 2 will do a 1 week rota with hot food in the hall and sandwiches or jacket potatoes in their classrooms. Starting with Y1 on hot food week commencing 8th March.

Before/After School

We are happy to tell you that we WILL be offering our wrap-around care.

The arrangements for Breakfast Club remain unchanged – please drop off at the Hall door.

From Wednesday 9th September we will be running 2 separate Kids Clubs,

- **INFANT Kids Club** (held at the Infant School) finishing at 5.30pm. Please collect from the Hall door - access via the side gate by the bins.
- **JUNIOR Kids Club** (held at the Junior School) finishing at 5.45pm

These will help to keep the mixing of pupils to a minimum. They will be run by each school and we ask that you please pay each school separately if you have a child at both schools.

We are finishing slightly earlier than previously to allow for wider cleaning, but will continue to be available Monday to Friday to support our working families.

If you need a place in Breakfast Club or Kids Club please contact the Infant School office as soon as possible next week.

Finally, as always, can I thank you for your continued support and understanding. You have been a huge part of the success that we've had with our COVID-19 arrangements. Our aim remains that we make everything work as smoothly and safely as possible for everyone.

Yours sincerely



Karen Smith
Headteacher



Jo Swallow
Head of Infant School



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