



14th May 2020

Re-opening of schools within The Three Saints Academy Trust

Dear parents & carers,

You will be aware from the media that the government intends for all primary schools to open on 1st June for Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y6 children. Vulnerable and key worker children will also continue to attend school. Siblings of these identified year groups will not be able to attend school.

We have been working hard to put a plan in place for the possible re-opening of our schools. We want to reassure parents that the overwhelming priority for our schools is the safety of our children and staff.

In order to prioritise safety, it may not be possible for all our schools to invite all the year groups back as described by the Prime Minister. This will depend on numbers of pupils, number of classrooms and staff able to attend work. We will invite classes back as it is safe to do so in this order; reception, nursery, Y1, Y6. We will of course keep parents informed when we have the necessary information to make this decision for each school. We are not in a position to say whether we will be able to work towards the governments wish to have all primary pupils back in school for the last month before the summer holidays.

In order to keep our children and staff safe, schools will look and operate very differently, I would like to outline in this letter some of the changes you and your child can expect.

Uniform – Children will wear school uniform as normal. They will not need a PE kit.

Classes – All children will be given new smaller classes of no more that 15 children. They will remain in the same room with the same staff for the summer term. Children will not move around the building at all, their lunches will be brought to the classroom and all children will eat their lunches at their desks. Playtimes outside will be staggered and children will only mix with the children in their class. The curriculum will be slimmed down; not all subjects will be taught. Every effort will be made to encourage social distancing between children, but we are sure parents will understand the difficulties with this for the very young children in the early years.

Start & finish times – Parents will be given a start and finish time for their child's class. These will be staggered so children only arrive with other children in their class and do not mix with children from other classes. Parents must strictly observe these times. Parents will be told by their school where to stand to drop off and collect their child, we must strictly limit access to the school site and this will only be allowed in an emergency.

"If you can believe, all things are possible to those who believe."

Mark 9:23

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First Aid – If a child needs first aid or intimate care this will be administered on a 1-1 basis and the member of staff will wear a mask and gloves. If a child becomes ill, with symptoms of Covid-19 whilst in school, a room has been identified in the school where the child will be isolated and can be monitored from outside the room, until collected by a parent. Please ensure school has your up-to-date emergency contact numbers.

Cleaning – Increased cleaning schedules have been put into place in all schools. Non-essential furniture and resources have been removed from classrooms. Y1-6 will all be provided with a pack of resources which are theirs and will not be touched by anyone else. No reading books or school workbooks will be sent home. Children will take part in regular handwashing routines and use of alcohol-based hand gels throughout the school day.

Attendance – Parents should follow the usual procedures for reporting absence, by ringing the school office on the morning of absence. We would also ask that if someone in your house-hold becomes ill with Covid-19 symptoms you inform school immediately and take NHS advice on isolating.

We would ask that parents are patient with our schools and their staff, we are living in exceptional times with an ever-changing situation, which we need to respond to and amend our plans regularly. We will continue to communicate with parents on a regular basis, this will be at least weekly, by text and email. We will not be sending paper communications home. We thank you for your support and patience and emphasise that all our decisions are taken with children and staff safety and well-being as our number one priority.

We hope all our families are well and continue to stay safe.

Kirsty Tennyson

Chief Executive Officer

The Three Saints Academy Trust

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