



# All Saints CE Academy, Denstone

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14<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

Dear all,

I hope that you are all safe and well. What a summer term this has been! We have thoroughly enjoyed seeing some of our pupils back since June 1<sup>st</sup> and are very much looking forward to having everyone back in September.

The staff and I have been busy planning our response to the guidelines published by the Department for Education on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and I am now in a position to give you information on what to expect when we open our doors to all pupils on Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>. As you can appreciate, plans may change if local lockdowns occur but as I type, all the information below is accurate.

**All** pupils will be welcomed back on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. We will be running the drop off and pick up times as set out below:

In the morning at All Saints we would like to keep the usual gate opening times 8.45 - 8.55 but use two different gates for access.

The **normal swing gate** to be used by **Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2**. The children will come through the gate and go straight to their classroom where an adult will be waiting.

The **side gate** (accessed via the gate by the staff car park and along to the right of the main entrance) for **Yrs 3 and 4**. The children will go straight into the classroom where an adult will be waiting.

We appreciate that the children will not have the early morning to play but we have planned to give them this time once the classes have arrived in the morning.

We ask that you;

Drop your child and leave to allow for other parents to drop their children off.

Please park on the village hall car park to avoid blocking the roads and to assist with social distancing / sight along the road etc

Bring siblings through the same gate at the same time.

**In the afternoons**, collection time will remain at 3.15. The main gates will be opened at 3.10 and we ask that you move forward towards your child's classroom to enable your child/s teacher to see you and other parents access to the gate as they leave the playground but still allow for distancing. If you have children in different classrooms it may be easier to be closer to the classroom of the younger child. Please ensure that your child remains with you during this time.

## Curriculum

The curriculum will operate as it would have done in September but with an enhanced focus on mental health and wellbeing, PSHE and outdoor education. The first few weeks back will be assessing any gaps in the pupils' knowledge and understanding. This will be done at pupil level and bespoke interventions will be planned and carried out on a needs basis. We are providing emotional support to our pupils through

sessions with Relax Kids who we have bought in for the academic year. Information about Relax Kids can be found following the link below:

<https://www.relaxkids.com/>

We have worked with Claire, who delivers Relax Kids in our area, for a number of years now and pupils benefit enormously from the sessions. Children in N – Year 2 will each have around an hour session each week for the first half term. The children in KS2 will be supported through resources we have acquired from mentally healthy schools and also through Forest School sessions. On the days when the children will be doing PE, we will ask that they come dressed in PE kits with a plain navy or black tracksuit over the top. The days for PE will be clarified nearer the start of term.

## Cleaning

We have already adopted enhanced cleaning procedures during the school day since opening our doors to wider pupils on June 1<sup>st</sup>. These procedures are now embedded and will continue in September. Pupils will be asked to wash their hands on entering school and each class has a set rota for hand washing throughout the day. We have a plentiful supply of hand sanitizer in each school and therefore there will be no need to send your child with their own.

## Response to infection

We will **not** be taking pupil's temperatures from September. Should there be a pupil who becomes ill with COVID symptoms then DfE guidelines will be followed. Please see below:

*Schools must ensure that staff members and parents/carers understand that they will need to be ready and willing to:*

- ❑ [book a test](#) if they are displaying symptoms. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents/carers if using a home testing kit
- provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- ❑ [self-isolate](#) if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

*Schools should ask parents and staff to inform them immediately of the results of a test:*

- if someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.
- ❑ if someone tests positive, they should follow the '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 7-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

Parents will be asked to take the child home and a Covid test to be carried out.

*By the autumn term, all schools will be provided with a small number of home testing kits that they can give directly to parents/carers collecting a child who has developed symptoms at school, or staff who have developed symptoms at*

*school, where they think providing one will significantly increase the likelihood of them getting tested. Advice will be provided alongside these kits.*

**Until there is a positive result, the class will remain in school but all parents will be informed.** Staff have been issued with PPE for donning when a child or adult becomes ill with symptoms. PPE will not be worn by staff at any other time.

### **Lunchtimes**

Children will be sat in their class 'bubbles' and tables will be spaced appropriately.

### **Free School Meals**

We are aware that unfortunately for some of you your financial circumstances may have changed. Please do not hesitate to apply for free school meals through Staffordshire County Council:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Overview.aspx>

Your child may already be eligible for the government funded universal infant free school meals (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) or they may bring sandwiches but a successful application benefits both your family and our school as we receive extra funding.

### **Classrooms**

The layout of classrooms will change. We have been encouraged to place desks facing the teacher and children will sit side by side at tables of two.

*'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'*

This is not how we believe children learn effectively but until guidelines relax then we shall be adopting this layout. The children will be provided with their own set of resources such as pencils, crayons etc and a sturdy zipped plastic wallet to store them in. Each child will need to provide their own named and filled water bottle each day as currently, the guidance does not allow us to use the water fountains. Any equipment for lessons such as cubes in maths etc will be sterilised at the end of each day. Reading books will be sent home from September but on returning them to school, there will be a designated basket in each classroom where these will be placed until it is safe to return them to our book boxes. We ask that other items are not bought into school for show and tell etc.

### **Before and after school provision**

Our before and after school clubs will be up and running again in September. Please contact school asap if you would like places booking. All cleaning procedures adopted during school hours will continue in our out of hour's provision.

### **Uniform**

Our school uniform expectations will re-commence from the start of term in September.

## Attendance

Please see below which is taken from the DfE guidance:

*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. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:*

- *parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*
- *schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence*
- *the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct*

I hope this has provided you with all the necessary information and reassurances for a safe and happy return to school. The safety of our staff and pupils is paramount and all guidance has been adhered to. If you would like any further information then please contact myself or the senior staff at your child's school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at our schools. It has been a learning curve for us all and I am so proud to work with such dedicated and committed people. Everything they have done has been for the benefit of our pupils and families, at a time when they were facing worries for themselves and their loved ones. We have emerged from this an even stronger team.

Thank you to you all for your ongoing support, we couldn't have or continue to function without it.

From myself and all the staff, we wish you a very safe and happy summer holiday.

*Rebecca Walker*

Rebecca Walker

Executive Headteacher

## The Saints' Academies Executive Headteacher: Mrs R Walker

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