

ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Thursday 20th June 2019

Re: Next year's teachers, next year's classrooms, starting information for September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child's next teacher

I am sure you will be aware that your child/ren will have spent time with their new teacher today in their new class setting. This is, of course, an exciting time but with 4 (very full) weeks still to go, you can appreciate why we have not laboured the changes too much with the children yet as we all still have a lot to do in those weeks and we want them to make the most of their time in their current class rather than thinking about their next class.

Below is the list of the teachers and classrooms for the academic year 2019-2020. It is hoped that meeting with the teacher today and sharing this information will go some way to calming inevitable nerves of 'new' and help your child have an image of their new class and teacher.

Year	Next year's teacher and room
EYFS/Reception	Mrs Player (previously Miss B Davies) – the Sheds.
Y1	Miss L Davies (current room)
Y2	Miss L Bendall with Mrs Ives taking over when she returns from maternity leave (in Mrs Ives' current room). Mrs Ives is likely to return in June 2020 but this is to be confirmed.
Y3	Mrs B Dobson and Mr J Ridd (our new Deputy Head). Y3 will return to the main building and be based in the current intervention room next door to the current Y5 classroom.
Y4	Mrs L Medway (in Miss Isaac's current room).
Y5	Mrs Harvey (in Miss Legg's current room).
Y6	Miss Legg (in Mrs Medway's current room).

Staff leavers and joiners

As many of you will know, Mrs Ives (our current Deputy Head) will be going on maternity leave tomorrow (Friday 21st June). Mrs Ives is likely to be returning in June 2020. We wish her all the very best and can't wait to hear her news/see photos of baby Ives. Mrs Butcher will teach Year 2 full-time for the remainder of the school year and will remain at St Chad's working across the school in September.

Mrs Lomax will sadly be leaving us at the end of the academic year; she will be taking up a new full-time teaching post at another local school. Congratulations and good luck to Mrs Lomax! We will also say goodbye to Miss Isaac whom we wish all the very best for the future and in her teaching career. Thank you to both Mrs Lomax and Miss Isaac for all of their hard work and commitment since they have been at St Chad's. Their final day with pupils will be on Thursday 18th July.

We are delighted to announce that Mr James Ridd has been appointed as our new Deputy Head from September 2019. He is a very talented teacher and leader who is excited about joining the St



Chad's community. Mr Ridd is currently leader of Key Stage Two and Maths at Frampton Cotterell C of E Primary School and is a Maths consultant for the local authority.

We have also appointed Miss Laura Bendall who will cover Mrs Ives during her maternity leave. Miss Bendall is an experienced, excellent teacher known to St Chad's and many of our families as she has previously taught here. We are delighted she is returning!

Both Mr Ridd and Miss Bendall have been in school today and enjoyed spending time with their new classes. They will be an asset to our school and we look forward to them starting in September.

Things to know for the first day back

It might seem a long time until we start back in September, but I wanted to make sure that everyone is aware of some of the back to school things to think about on the first day back. We will start back on Tuesday 3rd September, 9am.

The INSET days for 2019-2020 are the following:

Monday 2nd September 2019

Friday 25th October 2019

Monday 6th January 2020

Friday 17th July 2020

Monday 20th July 2020.

For more information please see <https://www.stchadsprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Inset-Dates-2019.pdf>

The first day after any holiday is especially busy and the return in September is probably one of the busiest mornings of the year for us all, especially the office. I suggest that unless it is urgent, you find another way to communicate, perhaps a letter either to the office or the class teacher (via your child). This will enable the office staff to deal with those issues which are really urgent. Of course, we are more than happy to speak with you, but this is just to alert you of the fact that despite staff's best efforts, the first day back in September will bring a very long queue at the office hatch!

Please make sure your child has all of the items they might need, such as PE kits, water bottles, etc. for the first day as they won't know their timetables at this point and may need them.

Dinners

Please remember that if your child is moving from year 2 into year 3, they will no longer be eligible for the Universal Free School Meals and you will need to buy any hot meals that you wish to have. Please see our website for more details on how to do this.

Pick up and drop off

It is very daunting for the children to make their way through a crowd of adults and for the new Reception class it is an especially scary time. We appreciate that you may wish to say goodbye to your children at that gate, however please make sure that children are able to get to the gates by standing in a way that does not block the gates or the walk to the gates for the children.

School staff are on duty from 8.50 with the start of school being at 9.00. Any child on site before this point will not be supervised (unless they are requested to be on site by a member of staff, for example as a morning helper). At 8.50, once a child has said goodbye to their parents, they will go to the playground where they will have a 10 minute playtime, monitored by school staff on duty. At 9.00 the bell is rung, all teachers are ready on the playground in their class' 'line up spot' (children will have



been shown this before breaking up and will be supported to remember this on the first few days). Once lined up and ready to start, they will be brought in by their teachers.

This year, **Reception** will be based in the 'Sheds' (Elliott building). Reception children are met at the front green gate by their teacher at the start of the day and at the end of the day will be dismissed to parents / carers from the green gate (closest to the 'Sheds' Elliott building).

By the end of the Reception year, most children come through the green gates on their own, say hello to their teacher and then make their way to the playground.

For **Year one** children, as our current reception will soon become, they will be expected to do this; say goodbye at the green gate and make their way to the playground in the morning. We are aware that this is something that will need home input as well as school to ensure they are ready to do this; we hope you will discuss this with your child in terms of them being more grown up and how proud we all are to see them achieve this. Please see below to see how this process develops as they move through school. We know that a six week summer break can have an impact and to ease this transition, for the first couple of weeks the year one class teacher will stand on the green gate and greet the children. By the time the new reception children are in full time (16th September), the year one children are more than able to make their own way to the playground where staff are present, and the class teacher will stop meeting them at the gate, instead meeting them on the playground to bring them in. It is worth remembering that the children who are currently in EYFS / Reception (soon to be year 1) all say goodbye at the gate and find their own way onto the playground already, so this is no change. At the end of the day, year one children will be similarly dismissed one at a time to their parents from their classroom's external door (in the same areas as the current Reception children are dismissed now).

Year two children come through the green gates in the morning and make their own way to the playground (usually after saying hello to staff on the gates!) and are greeted on the playground by the staff on duty as explained above. At the end of the day, they will be dismissed from their classroom one at a time to their parent or carer.

Year three children are now in the juniors and of course, we further support their independent development. At the start of the day, the process is the same as in year two. The year 3 classroom will be back in the main building in September (as will year 4). At the end of the day, the pupils will be dismissed through the main green gates where you say goodbye in the morning. At the start of the year, the class teachers will come out with the class and be there to emotionally and literally support the children as they acclimatise into finding their own adult. Work will be done in class to explain the process to the children, how to find their adult, what to do if they are worried or if they cannot find their parent and so on. Of course, the class teacher will be watching, but there is an increased onus on the pupil to responsibly find their pick up person. This leads them to the following years as described below.

Year four to six similarly leave their adults at the green gates in the mornings as described above. In the afternoon, Year four to six pupils are dismissed from their classrooms and will make their own way to their pick up adults / or for year 6, walk home.

In September, each class teacher will send out a letter detailing the topics being covered that term along with more specific information about timings for activities such as PE slots and swimming if that is applicable to your child.





If you have any further questions, please ask at the office or your current class teacher who will help. For now, we wish your child/ren a happy final few weeks in their current classes and wish you all a sun-filled, enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely,

All of the staff at St Chad's Primary School.

