

ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wednesday 17th June 2020

Re: Next year's teachers, classrooms and starting information for September (subject to Government guidance being amended and Public Health restrictions being reduced/lifted)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well. We currently have keyworker children, vulnerable children, Reception and Year 1 children in school and look forward to welcoming Year 6 children back on a part-time basis from next week. Whilst we are constantly reviewing our risk assessment in line with government guidance and making changes to enable us to accommodate more children where possible, unless the Public Health England guidance changes, we will be unable to take in any more year groups before the summer holidays (end of term being Thursday 16th July).

If you are a keyworker (and have not previously requested a place) and find that you need a place for your child in school over the coming weeks, we request that you put this in writing providing us with two weeks' written notice of the dates you require and provide ID from your place of work that you are a critical worker. We will endeavour to do our best to provide a place for your child but we will require some time to deal with the request; any change will affect what is currently in place and the school will need to take account of both staffing and accommodation.

Whilst we are hoping that September will mean that we can welcome back many more children, we await confirmation from the government on how to proceed with this. To ensure that we are ready and prepared for this, I am writing to provide you with details of next year's teachers and classrooms. If we have the 'go ahead' to welcome everyone back, this is what St Chad's will look like; if not, we will provide further details as and when we know and are able to assess the situation.

Your child's next teacher

This time next week, children would have been spending time with their new teachers as part of the transition work we do in school. Unfortunately, this is not able to take place this year. Instead, children will receive a call in the next few weeks from their new teacher to find out how they are, their interests and enable the children to ask any questions. It is hoped that this call will help to calm inevitable nerves of 'new' things to come and help your child get to know their teacher a little.

Below is the list of the teachers and classrooms for the academic year 2020-21.

Year	Next year's teacher and room
EYFS/Reception	Miss Bendall – the Sheds.
Y1	Mrs Player on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Ives (our Key Stage One leader returning from maternity leave) on a Thursday and Friday (In the current breakfast club room). As current Reception parents know, Mrs Player will be going off on maternity leave towards the end of term 1. Mrs Player will move up with her current class until this happens to support the transition and the return to school following Covid-19 closures.



Healthy School



	We will let you know who will be covering Mrs Player's maternity leave when we have further details.
Y2	Miss Davies (In the current year 1 classroom).
Y3	Mrs Dobson (Monday, Tuesday and every other Wednesday) and Mr Ridd (our Deputy Head – every other Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)- in the current Y3 classroom.
Y4	Mrs Medway – in the current Y4 room.
Y5	Mrs Harvey – in the current Y5 room.
Y6	Miss Legg – in the current Y6 room.

Staff leavers and joiners

Mrs Ives (our Key Stage One leader, previously Acting Deputy Head), has officially returned from maternity leave today and will be working part-time with Year 1 from September.

As many of you will know, Mrs Player (our current Reception teacher) will be going on maternity leave towards the end of year 1. Mrs Player is likely to be returning in July 2021, which be confirmed closer to the time. I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Mr and Mrs Player on their wonderful news and wish them much happiness preparing for their new arrival.

Things to know for the first day back

If we are able to return fully in September, I just wanted to remind you of things to be aware of on the first day back. The below information assumes that we will revert to normality as prior to Covid-19, however it is likely that our risk assessment will mean that changes will need to be made to ensure the safety of all, meaning that fewer items will be able to be brought into school and we may possibly need to keep our staggered starts and finishes, and continue to communicate via phone, email, text and dojo rather than via the office hatch. We will update you as soon as possible on this but it is likely to be during August as we will be following the most up-to-date government and scientific advice.

We will start back on Wednesday 2nd September 2020, 9am.

The INSET days for 2020-21 are the following:

Tuesday 1st September 2020

Friday 23rd October 2020 (this may change to Monday 2nd November – I will notify you as soon as possible if this is the case, I am awaiting confirmation – circumstances beyond our control)

Monday 4th January 2021

Friday 28th May 2021

Wednesday 21st July 2021.

For more information please see <https://www.stchadsprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/INSET-and-term-dates-2020-2021.pdf>

What would usually happen and we hope will happen this year!

Items

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.



Breakfast Club/After School Clubs

Some children have benefitted greatly from a breakfast club provided voluntarily by our TAs this year (and for several years prior). Due to the current circumstances and our staffing capacity, we will be unable to offer this in September. It doesn't mean that it won't return but all staff have other roles and responsibilities that they will be required to do and we anticipate our TAs having to continue with an increased workload in September due to Covid-19 so they won't be in a position to run this. I would like to say a huge thank you to our TAs, who have voluntarily ran breakfast club, in particular special thanks go to Mrs Rogers, Sally, Michelle, Julie and Francesca for the time they have committed over and above the role they are employed to do.

After-school clubs may be able to run but this is subject to government and Public Health guidance and may not begin in September. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Pick up and drop off

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 and are therefore not allowed on the school premises (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 be shown this on the first day -usually before- 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. For the first couple of weeks the year one class teacher/s will stand on the green gate and greet the children. By the time the new reception children are in full time (14th 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.

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. 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 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 during your weekly call or via dojo.

We will endeavour to let you know as soon as we know ourselves what the plan will be for September and absolutely hope that it will mean as many children returning as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

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

