

ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Monday 6th July 2020

Re: St Chad's reopening to all pupils in September

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this finds you all well. Thank you for your patience in waiting for information regarding the return to school in September. We have now been provided with the guidance that was needed by the Department for Education (DfE) and the local authority to allow us to plan our opening of school fully.

We will be following Plan A unless government guidelines change over the summer. If you don't hear from us, please follow Plan A as detailed below. For your information, Plan B and C are attached to this letter should you wish to find out what the plan will be if circumstances change.

The main caveat for Plan A is that if either local or national lockdowns occur (like the one in Leicester) or the infection rate increases then we will not be able to re-open fully. Therefore, we have had to plan for different scenarios - Plans B and C! I apologise in advance for the length of this letter but there is so much information to provide you with.

PLAN A

The plan for full reopening in September will also have some restrictions placed upon us in terms of continued staggered entry and exit school times for every class as well as playtimes and lunchtimes. There will continue to be one way systems to come into and out of school (markings are on the carpark and there will be one entry point on Cranham Drive). Unfortunately, due to the number of families we have within school we are unable to move class entry times around to suit everyone. I fully understand that this isn't ideal but we have followed the guidance and must ensure the safety of our school community first and foremost.

The government has decided that each class will be an individual bubble to allow full return of all children. The children will remain in their classroom bubbles for at least the first month and not combine with any other classes (other than when they are outside and can mix with one other bubble only). Adults are allowed to move between bubbles based on the guidance but the children will (where possible) be taught predominantly by their class teacher. As we don't have enough teaching assistants for each class we have been allowed to share these vital members of staff across the classes within the key phases i.e. across Years 1 and 2.

With regards to attendance, we expect that all children restart school on the days below and continue to remain in school. The government have announced that they expect children to be in school full time and that attendance is **compulsory**. We will expect the children to return to school in their uniforms as normal.

There are some practical considerations in respect of organisation of timetables and around the school. We will not be allowed to hold whole school gatherings/collective worship as yet. Children will either eat their lunches in the classroom or outside, weather permitting. At the moment, we are unsure of the implications for cooked school lunches. The current plan is to provide a reduced menu of hot meals. School meals/school sandwiches will need to be ordered via Parentpay in the usual way.



Each class will be allocated a set of toilets to be used. Each set of toilets will be used by up to two classes. There will be enhanced hand washing hygiene. Children will be expected to sanitise and wash their hands when they arrive at school, at the end of each lesson, before they eat and before they go home. The classroom surfaces and door handles will be wiped after use. This is all part of the Health and Safety Risk Assessment that we have in place as agreed by the local authority. The children who have been in school over the past term in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as those of key worker parents have thoroughly enjoyed their time back in school. The children are very aware of the need for social distancing and hand hygiene. I am sure they will be able to share this with others in September.

In respect of illness, we would ask that you inform the school immediately if your child or any member of your household becomes ill with symptoms of Covid-19. We will have to inform Public Health England and follow this up when you or the children have been tested. If any member of the class become ill and tests positive for Covid-19, then the whole class will have to isolate themselves at home for up to 14 days. We would ask that you follow the normal procedures if your child becomes unwell with other illnesses or bugs such as vomiting, etc. This is extremely important for the safety of all members of our school community.

These are the times for each class for arrival and departure of school.

Bubble Class	Miss Bendall Reception	Mrs Player / Mrs Ives / Miss Lester Y1	Miss Davies Y2	Mrs Dobson/ Mr Ridd Y3	Mrs Medway Y4	Mrs Harvey Y5	Miss Legg Y6
Time of entry	Please see separate letter (9.15am)	9.05am	9.05am	8.55am	8.55am	8.45am	8.45am
Entry/exit	Green gate by the office	Green gate by the office	Green gate by the office	Green gate by the office	Green gate by the office	Green gate by the office	Green gate by the office
Times of break	10.00-10.15	10.15 – 10.30	10.15 – 10.30	10.45-11.00	10.45-11.00	10.30-10.45	10.30-10.45
Time of lunch	11.30-12.30	11.30-12.30	11.30-12.30	12.30-1.30	12.30-1.30	12.30-1.30	12.30-1.30
Afternoon break	2.10-2.20	2.20-2.30	2.20-2.30	2.40-2.50	2.40-2.50	2.30-2.40	2.30-2.40
Time of leaving	See separate letter	3.30pm	3.30pm	3.20pm	3.20pm	3.10pm	3.10pm

To allow the children to become accustomed to the new systems, the guidance allows schools to have a phased entry to school at the start of September – a model that many local schools we work with are following including Coniston and Almondsbury. Therefore, the children will be invited into school on the following days before everyone starts fully on **Monday 7 September**.

Tuesday 1 September	INSET DAY - school closed to all children
Wednesday 2 September	Year 3 and 4 children only
Thursday 3 September	Year 1 and 2 children only
Friday 4 September	Reception, Year 5 and 6 children only

The most important thing is that the children and families remain safe, well and healthy as well as the staff.





In terms of the curriculum, we have planned for a strong, exciting curriculum which enables the children to reconnect with their friends, teachers, and learning in school. As usual in September, we will start the year with a series of activities relating to Well-being and Mental health, enabling the children to familiarise themselves with school, their new teachers/teaching assistants and the changes that will be in place. These will be most important this year after the children have been away from school for such a long period of time. I know that many have maintained their enthusiasm and developed different skills over this period of time; well done and thank you to all those who have kept this up.

We will be enabling the children to revisit objectives and some activities covered during the past three months during the first few weeks before moving on.

Thank you for all of the support you have given to the school, staff and your children over the past few months. It has been invaluable and much appreciated.

I would like to wish you all a safe and happy summer. Enjoy the time without home learning and spending time as a family. We all look forward to being back to school as normal as possible in September and can't wait to see you all.

Kind regards,

Steph Jenkins
Headteacher

Appendix – Further plans only if government guidance changes

PLAN B

The same expectations would apply as stated above in Plan A regarding attendance, uniform, hygiene and general timetabling, etc.

However, Plan B will be enacted if there is a restricted start to school due to increased infection rates and a need for greater social distancing. The children's attendance at school would be on a rota basis. Group A would be in school on Monday and Tuesday only with Group B in school on Thursday and Friday so children would all attend school for 2 days a week but with half of the class attending during those 2 days. There would be an expectation that the children then completed work set by their teachers on the days when they would not be in school. The school would be closed on a Wednesday for deep cleaning and time for teachers to prepare online and home learning when the children are not in school. If this plan is used, it would be for a limited amount of time as we would hope to return to full school as soon as possible.

PLAN C

This plan would be put into place if there is a full lockdown of the local area or nationally. This would mean a return to online home learning and only children of key worker parents would be able to attend school.

