

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School

Kale Road, Erith, Kent DA18 4BA
Telephone: 020 8310 7311 Fax: 020 8312 1017
www.sjf.bexley.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Sarah J Griffin BA (Hons) MA (Hons) NPQH

16th July 2020

Dear Parents

Return to school for September 2020

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school in September: the start date for Years 1 - 6 is Monday 7th September. Children joining us in Reception have been given their induction meeting and start dates.

Our full return plan was developed by the leadership team and will be put in place, alongside our Risk Assessment that has been approved by our Governing Body. To achieve a safe return and follow government guidance, we have had to make many adjustments to how our school will run for the Autumn Term. The safety of our school community is always of paramount importance and this is reflected in our Risk Assessment; to achieve a full return in line with government guidance, the school day has been amended slightly but no teaching time will be lost.

As you will imagine there are numerous issues that have been taken into consideration and decisions were made to ensure that our school community can come together again, while being alert and staying safe. I do apologise for the amount of information we have to share with you at this point but our aim is to give you a comprehensive guide as to how school will be in September and to enable you to support your children and the school staff.

There are number of important practical elements within the plan that we need to share with you and request that you support us in our efforts to maintain the safety and education of your children.

Bubbles

The children have been put into Year group/Class bubbles, they will work within this bubble, play within this bubble and eat within this bubble.

Social distancing

A key element of government guidance is that all adults in school should maintain social distancing of 2m between themselves and other adults and also where possible between themselves and the children. You will appreciate that this may not always be possible with very young children.

We do require parents to maintain social distancing of 2m whilst on the school site and when coming to and from school.





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Should you need to speak to a teacher or the school office please contact us, either by email or phone. There will be no face to face meetings between staff and parents. Parents are asked to drop or collect children and leave the school site promptly.

Hygiene

Children will be instructed and supported to regularly wash their hands throughout the day and follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' routine for coughs and sneezes. Enhanced cleaning will be in place in school.

Coronavirus

Should there be a confirmed or suspected case of Coronavirus, we will follow Public Health England and local Public Health instruction. **Parents must not send their child to school if they are unwell with symptoms or anyone in the household displays symptoms.** All members of the school community must engage with the NHS Test and Trace processes. Any need for isolation or closure of bubbles will be communicated to parents as soon as we are aware. The school has an isolation unit in place should a child or staff member become unwell during the day.

Attendance

The government has now stated that all children are expected to attend school as usual in September and usual attendance accountabilities for parents and schools will resume.

Transport

Families who use public transport to travel to and from school should consult the safer travel guidance for passengers that is available on the government website.

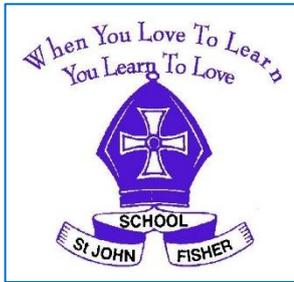
Arriving at school

All children must be brought to school by an adult and handed over to a member of staff on the gate - Children can arrive from 08:30am - 08:55am - after 08.55am your child will be marked as late. **Once your child has entered school please leave promptly.**

On rainy days we are unable to take the children into the school hall as usual so please wait in your car or under a shelter whilst maintaining social distancing. Children will enter the school as above.

Equipment





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The only items your child will need to bring to school are their PE kit at the start of term, their lunch box (if not having a school lunch), their school book bag or rucksack and their water bottle. Please do not send in anything else from home.

School Uniform

All children must come to school in their full school uniform including appropriate footwear. They will need their PE kit in school from the beginning of term. Please check with the school website for full uniform details. Government guidance recognises that school uniform plays an invaluable role in contributing to the ethos of a school. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from usual.

Curriculum

The children will be assessed by their class teachers on their return to school to enable a focus on developing key skills in English, particularly Reading, and Mathematics to support learning. The children will continue to follow a broad and balanced curriculum, based on our topics and will follow the school programmes in RE and PE. There may be some restrictions in PE until guidance is changed.

Teachers will also follow a mental health and well-being programme to support all children to reflect on their experience of lockdown and how things have changed for us all. There will be opportunities for mindfulness sessions and additional pastoral support where appropriate.

Extra-curricular activities

We are not able to run any after school clubs or lunchtime clubs for the Autumn Term. This will be reviewed in October.

School Diary and Visitors

No trips will be arranged for the Autumn Term. All visitors to school will be limited to essential visits only. Please do not come into the school reception unless you have an appointment - you should email any questions you may have. The school calendar events will be very limited and alternative reporting will replace the Autumn Term parent teacher meetings. We will update on calendar events following a review in October.



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Behaviour in school

We will continue with our very high expectations for behaviour in school and will follow our Traffic Light System in line with the Covid-19 addendum as published on our website. Please support us in preparing your child for their return to school by talking to them about the importance of following all instructions and changes to routine to keep them and their peers and teachers safe. There will be new rules and expectations in place for all children and these will be explained to them by their class teachers.

Leaving school

All children must be collected by an adult until Half Term in Autumn - we will review this safety measure then. The school gates will open at 2:45pm and will be closed at 3:15pm. If you arrive after the gate is closed you will be issued a Late Gate Fine.

These procedures will be reviewed during October half term and may be amended at any time should there prove to be any exceptional circumstances or changes to government guidance.

Thank you for taking the time to read this extensive document - please do keep it to refer to again before we resume in September. Your support during this time is much appreciated and will help us to keep our school community safe.

Yours sincerely

Miss Griffin