

## ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs C Fenna B.Ed.

27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents,

We have been working hard at St Paul's to try to increase the number of children in school in an appropriate and safe way for pupils, staff and families and within a realistic time frame. Our plans for the phased wider reopening of the school are set out below. We have had an early indication of parents wishing to take up the offer of a place in the categories set out by the government but realise that capacity and demand may change. Therefore, we have not set rigid timescales for each phase of the recovery plan apart from phase 1 which will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> June. This will allow us to assess what is happening in school and to only move on to the next phase when we feel it is safe and viable to do so.

Phase	Focus	Timescale
Phase 1	Preparation of rooms	25 <sup>th</sup> May
Phase 1	Establish new "bubbles" for keyworker	1 <sup>st</sup> June onwards
	and vulnerable groups	
Phase 2	Year 6	No confirmed date. Parents will be
		contacted and informed of start date
Phase 3	F2, Year 1	No confirmed date. Parents will be
		contacted and informed of start date

We will keep you informed regarding opening to other year groups according to our ongoing risk assessment. We will be continually assessing our capacity and the risk against the spread of COVID-19 and the LA has assured us they are also closely monitoring the R level within the region.

Please read the information below concerning your child's return to school. As you can understand we are having to make many changes to the layout of the school in order to follow the social distancing guidelines closely and make the school environment as safe as we possibly can. Children will be in small groups called bubbles and will stay in that bubble throughout the school day. This means they will not necessarily be with their own class teacher or in their usual classroom. Siblings will be kept together so the bubbles will be mixed age ranges and will not mix with other bubbles at any time during the school day.

Parents will be given a time to arrive at school and a designated gate from where your child will be collected by a member of staff – parents will not be allowed beyond the school gate. Only one parent from a household should accompany their child to school and we would ask that parents maintain social distancing at the gate.

Children do not have to wear school uniform but should come to school in sensible clothing – no football kits, belly tops or ripped jeans, The most sensible attire for your child will be shorts and t

shirt but definitely something that you do not mind them getting paint and glue on or mud and grass from playing outside. Parents must ensure that their child arrives at school each morning in a fresh set of clothes. Apart from a bottle of water and a packed lunch if required, children should not bring anything into the building with them. If bringing a packed lunch, it must be in a bag that can be thrown away after lunch – no plastic lunch boxes please. As the weather looks as though it will continue to be warm and sunny, we would ask that coats are left at home if possible.

Parents must bring their child to school at the time stated. It will not be possible to release staff to constantly come to the gate to collect children who are late. Similarly, the children must bring their lunch (if applicable) and water bottle at the beginning of the day. Parents will not be admitted to bring things after the children are in the classroom. If your child does not bring their packed lunch to school as directed then they will be given a school lunch and you will be charged for it if your child is not eligible for free school meals.

We are proud to be supporting our critical workers as they put themselves at risk to enable key services to keep running. But we would ask that you only bring your child to school when you have to i.e. when you are working. If you are a keyworker and have not already done so please supply a copy of your work patterns and rota to the office.

Similarly, to keep our staff and other children safe please check your child's temperature before bringing them to school. If they show any signs of being unwell please do not bring them in but phone the office to advise the absence in the normal way.

Although the rules on staying at home and only exercising once a day have been relaxed slightly we would expect you to ensure that your child is not at large gatherings or parties where social distancing cannot be maintained. I am sure you will agree such behaviour could endanger our staff, their families and other children. If it comes to our attention that children are being allowed to roam around the estate then we will reserve the right to ask you to keep them at home for seven days in self isolation.

You will be sent a separate letter with details of your child's start time and a code of expectations which you will be asked to sign on your child's first day. If you change your mind about sending your child to school at this time please contact the office.

These are challenging times for us all and I know many of you will be anxious to get back to work yet worried about sending your child back to school. We understand this and will work with you to ensure that the measures that we have put in place will help us to make the environment in school the safest it can be for all children and staff. Thank you for your co-operation and ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Fenna Headteacher