



ST. ANDREW'S CE (VA) JUNIOR SCHOOL

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KS/ES

26 February 2021

Full opening of School from 8th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you continue to remain safe and well.

As a result of the Government announcement on Monday 22nd February we are looking forward to welcoming **ALL our children back to school from Monday 8th March**. Attendance is statutory, children **MUST** return to school.

The DfE states that the overwhelming evidence is that the risk to children and young people of being out of school increases the longer restrictions on education are in force. Whilst education settings can be places where transmission occurs, there is no strong evidence of schools driving large-scale community transmission.

Public Health informs us that COVID-19 rates remain high in Calderdale, so whilst we are coming out of lockdown, there is still a lot of COVID-19 in the community. As a result of this, we will continue with the many strategies that we have in place to maximise the safety of everyone.

As previously, **children will be in year group 'bubbles'**, that is to say, they will not mix with children from other year groups whilst in school. We will continue to have staggered play and lunchtimes. The start of the day will return to our previous system where we **open all the class doors at 8.40am but we will extend the drop-off time to 8.55am**. You can bring your child at any time between 8.40am and 8.55am at the start of the day, allowing time for parents to drop children off at the Infant School as well. **Please do NOT arrive at school before 8.40am as this causes congestion at the gates**. Children must come independently into the school building.

Each morning, on entering the school building, children will continue to wash their hands before finding their seat in class. Classes will have a thermometer available, so that if any child feels hot or unwell during the day we can take their temperature.

Children must wear their school uniform but on the days that they have PE they should come to school wearing their PE kit.

Where possible, classroom tables will be arranged in rows with children facing the front. Children will sit alongside one other pupil. Staff will continue to be encouraged to maintain a safe, socially distanced space from the children and to wash their hands regularly throughout the day.

We will maintain our one-way system for drop-off and pick-up times – **in through the main gates, out through the gate at the top of the field;** this will support families to maintain social distancing. We ask that you ALL follow this to ensure the safety of everyone and also that only ONE family member comes to collect and drop off children. **You MUST wear a face covering whilst on the school grounds and keep at a 2 metre distance from other families.**

Year	Staff	Door	Drop-off time	Pick-up time
3	Miss Mason	Class Australia door	For all classes the doors will open at 8.40am until 8.55am so that parents/carers can drop off between these times.	3.25pm
	Miss Armitage	Class Ireland door		3.25 pm
4	Mr Johnson	Year 4 door		3.15 pm
	Mr Lyons	Year 4 door		3.15 pm
5	Miss Holt	Class France door		3.25 pm
	Miss Haley	Class Germany door		3.25 pm
6	Miss Barker	Year 6 door		3.15 pm
	Miss Riley	Year 6 door		3.15 pm

We have staggered the end of the school day to allow for more space in the playground. Please ensure that you remain socially distanced from other families at all times:

- **Year 4 and 6 will leave at 3.15pm**
- **Year 3 and 5 will leave at 3.25pm**

If your child has a sibling here or at the Infant school you can, by prior arrangement, collect from Year 4 and Year 6 at 3.25pm. **Please contact us if you need to make this arrangement.**

School dinners will be available to order for all children. We will assume that your child is continuing with their previous meal pattern but if you would like to change this please contact the school office as soon as possible next week.

I am happy to tell you that we will once again be offering our wrap-around care. Our Breakfast Club and Kids Club will continue to run at two separate sites for the rest of this academic year.

- **INFANT Kids Club** (held at the Infant School) finishing at 5.30pm
- **JUNIOR Kids Clubs** (held at the Junior School) finishing at 5.45pm

This will help to keep the mixing of pupils to a minimum. We are finishing slightly earlier than previously to allow for wider cleaning, but will continue to be available Monday to Friday to support our working families.

If you would like to book a place in our Breakfast Club or Kids Club please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Finally, as always, can I thank you for your continued support and understanding. You have been a huge part of the success that we've had with our COVID-19 arrangements. Our aim remains that we make everything work as smoothly and safely as possible for everyone.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KS', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Karen Smith
Headteacher