

Sunday 6th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

A happy Sunday to you all. I hope you have all had a pleasant weekend.

We were delighted to welcome back your children last week and they have impressed us with how well they settled into the new routines of school. We appreciate how incredibly difficult it has been for everyone during lockdown and the concerns you have had about your child returning to school. Without exception, in every class I visited, the children were smiling, glad to be back with their friends and engaged with their learning activities. We are however fully aware that many children have questions and worries with which they will need support. So, we will continue to work with the children on activities to help build their good mental health and wellbeing.

Below are a few points, which will answer some of the queries and concerns raised.

Drop off/Pick up

This proved very difficult on our first day back and throughout the week. We have reviewed and made necessary changes to improve safety during these periods.

- On **Atherton Street**, which has a shared car park also used by people attending church, we are now able to close off the car park for 20 minutes at the start and end of the day. We have also sectioned off the area around the zigzag lines to allow more space to avoid congestion.
- We are reviewing arrangements for collecting at the end of the day on **Sandringham Drive**, and we will share this with you.
- We look forward to welcoming the youngest members of our school family from tomorrow. This is their transition week and the Foundation Staff have shared arrangements for drop off and collecting with families.

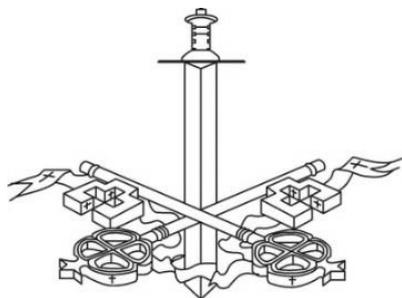
Please avoid arriving early and waiting around before it is your child's turn, as this makes it very difficult for staff to see their pupils, and for parents/carers to see their child's teacher and their lining up point.

- 🚦 **Please arrive at the allocated time for dropping and collecting your child**
- 🚦 **Please stay in your car or at a safe distance from the entrances while you wait to avoid congestion**
- 🚦 **Please 'drop and go' leaving the school site as quickly as possible once your child has been dropped off or collected**
- 🚦 **Please do not drive or park selfishly. Be respectful of our school community, including neighbouring homes. No-one would appreciate having our driveway blocked or the area where we live congested for prolonged periods every day. This is the lived experience of many of the homes surrounding Ss. PP**

Please be kind

We would appreciate it if you observed these little but very important things. We are all expected to model good social distancing behaviours for our children and to each other. In school, we can practice and reinforce this with the children. You can help us all greatly by reinforcing and modeling this at home and when around and about with your children. It is all too easy to forget and be complacent but by politely reminding each other, we can all help keep each other a bit safer. This is crucial especially with the number of Wirral infections increasing. Many of you have been so thoughtful and shared your concerns and support and this is much appreciated. We are here to listen and do all we can to keep everyone safe and happy.





Siblings

In my previous letters, I asked families with siblings to bring all children in at the start of the earliest, and collect with the latest child. I have already spoken with some parents/carers to offer the best support and will be contacting you, if you have more than one child in school, to offer the most appropriate drop off and collection points. We hope this will make it easier for you, especially if you have very small children and/or are working. Siblings will wait in the 'Siblings Lines' until their class comes out usually if this is within a few minutes. Allocated staff will take children, in particular the younger ones to their classes where needed.

Wrap-Around-Care

Breakfast and OOSC resumes tomorrow, Monday 7th September. Those of you who requested a place in either of these will have received details of arrangements last Tuesday 1st September. If you find that you are not receiving messages, please contact the school office (0151 639 2991) to update your contact details and resolve any issues. Please read and observe the arrangements in place. Please let us know of any issues and we will do our best to resolve them.

PE Kit

Your child's teacher will contact you this week to let you know the date for their PE lesson. Please remember that on their PE day, your child must come to school dressed in their PE kit as this will save time and reduce movement around school. The PE kit includes black shorts, a white T-shirt and a pair of trainers. As PE lessons will largely be held outside, your child may need something warmer (eg track suit) in cooler weather.

Please label ALL uniform including PE kits!

Lunches

Parents/carers of Year 3 children were sent details last week for selecting lunch preferences. This was sent out in July however, we received only a few responses. We fully appreciate this could have been missed given the circumstances. If you have not done so, please contact school with your preference.

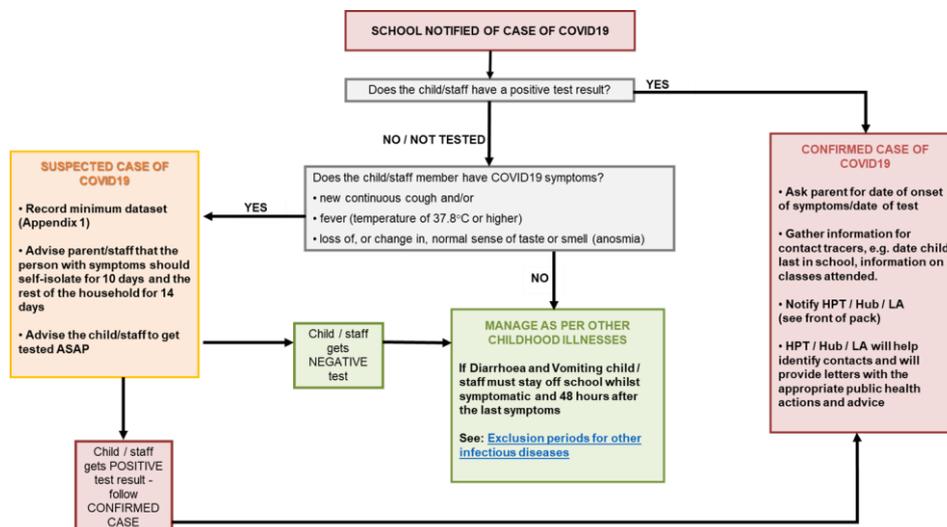
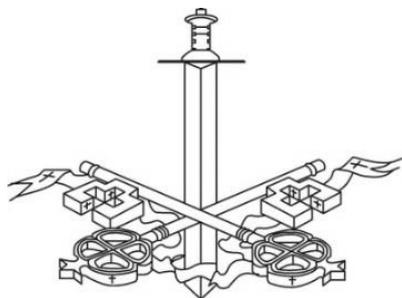
Children can now bring their lunches in a lunch box. Please, no huge bags or rucksacks as we are unable to store these. Thanks again to you all for supporting us by sending your child's lunch in a disposable paper bag and not a lunch bag/box. If you wish to continue doing so that is fine. They will be thrown away after lunch.

Please remember to send a labelled water bottle each day for your child. We will send bottles home at the end of each day to be washed and refilled. **Any left accidentally in school will have to be thrown away.**

COVID Updates

We receive constant updates on measures we need to take to keep everyone safe. Keep referring to the **Coronavirus Updates** under the **PARENT** tab of the school website. Below is a flow chart that will help us all make appropriate decisions if we suspect a child or staff member displays any symptoms. Please be aware that a test is only required if you have one of the three key symptoms (**a new continuous cough, a high temperature, a loss of or change in their normal sense of taste or smell**). If a test is required, the whole family must self-isolate!





Parents/Carers of Y6 children walking home from school

Usually we allow Year 6 children to walk home on request from parents/carers. I am keen that the children develop their independence and confidence, and this is a good way for them to do so in preparation for secondary school. However, during the Autumn Term 1, I am discouraging children from walking home without adult supervision, and I will keep this under review.

Birthday Sweets/Cakes etc

Sadly, we are unable to receive any sweets, cakes or packs for children's birthday celebrations. Please support our position, and be assured that we will make a fuss of your child when it is their birthday!

Our aim is to have as normal a return to school as possible for the children. We know that some parents and children will be anxious but please know that we will look after them. Contact school with any concerns and we will do all we can to support you.

We will continue to do all we can to keep your children safe. Thank you as always for your ongoing support. We shall see you and your children in the morning.

God bless.

P Graham

Mrs. P Graham
Headteacher

