



# St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School

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Headteacher – Mrs Rebecca Wilkinson

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## RE Wider Opening of School

Following the Government announcement on Monday of this week, I am delighted to confirm that school will re-open to **all** pupils on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. The purpose of this letter is to outline the arrangements for this return.

School drop and collection times will remain the same as before Christmas ie:-

YEAR GROUP	MORNING DROP OFF	AFTERNOON PICK UP
3	8.30-8.45am	2.50pm
4	8.45-9am	3.05pm
5	8.30-8.45am	2.50pm
6	8.45-9am	3.05pm

Where parents have children with different drop off/collection times, both children may be dropped off at the **earlier** time (**8.30-8.45am**) and may be collected at the end of the day at the **later** time (**3.05pm**).

Only one parent should drop off their child at the school gate and should collect their child at the end of the school day. **Please note that, without proof of exemption, adults not wearing a face will not be allowed to enter the school grounds at this time.**

In line with Government guidance we would encourage parents (where possible) to avoid using public transport.

## HOW SCHOOL WILL OPERATE

- In order to minimise contacts, the children will be in a class bubble with their class teacher and teaching assistant(s).
- They will have to remain in the same class bubble for the duration of the day. They will not be allowed to mix with the other children in the other bubbles.
- Toilet times will be supervised by an adult and in order to maintain social distance, no more than three pupils will be able to go to the toilet at any one time (two in the toilets and one socially distancing outside).
- In classrooms, the children will sit at forward facing desks and will not sit on the carpet at any time.
- The children should limit the items that they bring into school; the children will be provided with all the equipment that they will need and this will be only be used by the children within their bubble.
- The children will have an allocated area of the playground to play in-they must remain in this space during all playtimes. Only equipment allocated to that specific bubble will be allowed to be used and this will need to be cleaned both before and after use.
- The children will largely be required to work independently as the teacher will not be able to go side by side or sit next to them to give them targeted support. This is because the teacher needs to keep a 2m social distance when teaching.
- If a child falls over or has a toileting accident they will be encouraged to change themselves and clean their scrape or cut. We have sourced PPE (following the COVID19 advice for Educational Settings) but this is for use only for staff protection should a child vomit. It is not for trips, falls and scrapes. If it is not possible for the child to clean themselves in the event of an accident, the parent will be called to collect them so that this can be done at home.
- To assist with social distancing, corridors will have a one way system in place.

Due to the requirement for us to fully ventilate the school, classrooms are likely to be cooler than they have previously been. We would therefore recommend that the children wear extra layers under their school uniform (eg vests/ T shirts) in order to keep warm.

Any children who loaned a Chrome Book during lockdown should return this to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We will require parents to sign the device back into school.

School attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from 8th March. This means that the usual rules on school attendance apply. It is parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school and the usual sanctions, (including Fixed Penalty Notices) will be imposed should a child's attendance fall below the satisfactory level. Nevertheless, as has been the case throughout the year, pupils must not come into the school if:-

- they have one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- they are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area
- they have had a positive test
- they have been advised by a medical professional

Once again, I would like to thank all parents for your patience and understanding at what has been a very unsettled time for everyone. It is very much appreciated. Myself and the staff very much look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Wilkinson**  
**Headteacher**

**Loving, learning, growing together with Jesus**



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