



Reopening of Schools
September 2020

Information for Parents

Dear Parents,

With just over a week to the start of the new academic year it is heartening to see much progress has been made in combating the COVID-19 virus not just nationally but regionally. However, strict DfE guidance is still in place to enable all pupils and staff to safely return to school in September and allow us to make sure all pupils have the required numeracy and literacy skills appropriate to their age group. For this reason, a temporary timetable has been put into place. This timetable will be continually evaluated and revised with the aim that a 'normal' timetable can be adopted as soon as possible. We are extremely excited to be welcoming all pupils back to St Joseph's in September and we will as always endeavour to make the curriculum as exciting as we can under the current guidance. I know parents are anxious for their children to return safely to school and we have done all we can to make sure that staff and pupils' safety is our priority. The following information will help parents and pupils understand what will be expected on our return.

SJMS

- As mentioned in July we are expecting to welcome **Y5 pupils only** on Wednesday 2nd September to allow them to familiarise themselves with their new school.
- Y6, 7 and 8 will be welcomed back on Thursday 3rd September
- Staggered start and finish times are shown below. Pupils should try to be prompt and line up at the designated point, staff will be there to help pupils at the times shown below. There will be no 'play' at the beginning/end of school to avoid mixing the bubbles. Pupils on buses need to remove their masks and place them somewhere safe for the journey back.

	Start	Finish
KS2, Y5 and Y6	8:35am	3:10pm
KS3, Y7 and Y8	8:45am	3:20pm

Form group line up points and classrooms

To enable pupils to remain in form group bubbles as much as possible each form will be based in one classroom for the majority of the day. Maths will be set in Y7 and 8 and those pupils needing extra support in Y5 and 6 may also use a designated intervention classroom.

	Line up point	Form Base
5M	Top yard	Base 9
5G	Top yard	Base 10
6D	Kitchen railings	M2
6H	Top yard	New classroom
6S	Bottom of the ramp	M1
7H	Bottom yard	Base 1
7R	Top yard	P1
7S	Bottom yard	Base 2
8C	Bottom of the ramp	Base 3
8D	Top yard	Base 7
8S	Kitchen railings	P2

Form Teachers for the Academic Year 2020/21

Old Form Class	New Form Class September 2020	Room
	5G (<i>Mrs Gelson</i>)	B10
	5M (<i>Miss Mooney</i>)	B9
5G	6D (<i>Miss Dodds</i>)	M2
5S	6S (<i>Mr Simpson/ Mr Rosier</i>)	M1
5A	6H (<i>Mr Hudson</i>)	OC
6H	7H (<i>Mrs Hagger</i>)	B1
6D	7S (<i>Mr Secker</i>)	B2
6M	7R (<i>Mr Rogstad</i>)	P1
7S	8D (<i>Mrs Dotchin</i>)	B7
7R	8C (<i>Mrs Coulson</i>)	B3
7H	8S (<i>Mr Seddon</i>)	P2

- If bus pupils are unable to arrive at the designated time they must wait in the bottom yard with staff supervision
- Pupils need to wear school uniform but it can be the old style or the new style. Any difficulties please get in touch with our admin team. We are also recycling school uniform and have a selection of uniform available from previous pupils which are washed and ready to be used. If this is of interest to you, please get in touch

- Can I also ask that pupils have a pair of outside shoes which can be kept in school. Pupils will be zoned at break and lunch times and the field will be used. As you know this can be quite muddy if there has been rain. More detail will follow on this arrangement
- KS2 pupils will be taught in classes with most lessons taught by one teacher, some lessons, for example music or technology, will be taught by specialist teachers. This will enable staff to adjust for 'catch-up' of numeracy and literacy lost due to COVID-19. Pupils will have two lessons of science, instead of three, to enable pupils to engage with online learning in preparation for a local lockdown if directed by local authority or DfE
- KS3 pupils will remain in classes but teachers will be moving classrooms to ensure all pupils receive specialist teaching in as many subject areas as possible
- All year groups will be set in maths but mixing of bubbles will be kept to a minimum
- KS2 and KS3 pupils will have staggered break and lunch times
- All pupils will have 15 minutes of reading a day. Please provide a suitable reading book for your child to bring to school. A list of reading books is available on our website
- All KS3 pupils will have an additional maths and English lesson every week ensuring that they have a maths and English lesson every day. To allow for this - pupils will have two, instead of three, science lessons a week and one, instead of two, French lessons a week. This is a temporary arrangement until we can assess the needs of the children in more detail
- In line with the government guidance all pupils will have minimum contacts whilst still having the best broad and balanced curriculum that we can offer. Technology, science and PE lessons have more restrictions than others due to their practical nature and these subjects will be delivered with very restricted use of equipment for pupils. Most PE lessons will take place outside unless the weather is poor in which case we will revert to the hall
- Every pupil will have an additional Catch-up lesson where they will have access to online working to complete work which may have been missed from foundation subjects during the lockdown. This will ensure that pupils will have the ability to access their online work immediately if a local lockdown is put in place
- Parents will be asked to sign up for school clubs in the week beginning Monday 7th September. All clubs will be in line with government guidelines and keeping children in their KS2 form group or KS3 year group bubble. This may limit the number of pupils able to attend. As always, we aim to provide a range of clubs so there is something for everyone at St Joseph's. Please sign up early to avoid disappointment

- I am also delighted to announce that we will be introducing a Breakfast & Learning club that will operate in school from 7.45 am Monday to Friday although children may be able to access this facility at a later time depending on family's schedules. We will be limiting this club to 40 pupils initially due to strict social distancing arrangements that will operate between year group bubbles. Learning activities will include reading, homework, ICT and fitness potentially later in the term. Breakfast will be included in the cost of every session and we will be supporting families that may be eligible for funding through pupil premium, (please contact school for more details). The places will be initially offered on a first come first served basis on completion of a form which will be sent out in week 1. All Breakfast and Learning club bookings must be made 24 hours in advance. The daily cost will be £3.50 initially per session for term one. When places are allocated more information will be provided to families
- Pupils are asked to wear their PE kit to school on the days that they have PE to avoid changing at school. May I also remind parents that pupils will not be able to take part in PE lessons or sports clubs unless all jewellery and earrings are removed. The school is not responsible for jewellery that goes missing. Plastic ear studs are allowed in PE lessons
- The new procedures will be thoroughly and clearly explained to all pupils on their return to school so that they feel confident and at ease in their surroundings
- Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 and inform us of the test results as soon as possible
- If your child displays any symptoms of COVID-19 you will be expected to pick them up from school as soon as possible and let us know the outcome of the test as soon as you have received it
- Hot lunches will be available for all pupils every day. These will be eaten in the hall on a staggered basis. Pupils with packed lunches will be eating in their classroom
- All equipment needed for school will be provided by school and kept at school. Pupils do not need to bring a pencil case to school, only a named water bottle and packed lunch if required
- September can be a very warm month, so can I again ask parents to make sure that children have hats and sun cream applied in the morning when they feel it is necessary. Can we also ask that all children have a warm coat for those not so warm days
- An updated Risk Assessment will be available on the school website prior to our return

Finally, our weekly newsletter is a really important way of staying in touch. Please do take the time to read and digest it. Newsletters are sent home via ParentMail on a Friday afternoon and posted on our website and Facebook. If you haven't yet signed up to this electronic communication service, please do so as this will ensure that it doesn't get lost on the way home. Each newsletter is also published on the school website under the 'Parent' section. We look forward to a happy and positive year ahead and working once again in partnership with you all.

Kind Regards,

Paul Naughton