



Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Hawthorn Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry. CV4 9LB
Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Askew

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8th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 1,

I am writing to give you more detail of the planned re-opening of school to Year 1 children from **Monday 15th June**.

We will initially be welcoming Nursery and Reception pupils back from Wednesday 10th June and then **Year 1 pupils from Monday 15th June**. Due to the restricted number of children we can have in a classroom, we must cap the number of Year 1 children at 26.

Whilst we understand that it is very difficult to implement social distancing with younger children, we have taken a number of measures to ensure our Year 1 children can safely return which include the following:

- If you, your child or someone you live with is displaying coronavirus symptoms, do not bring your child into school. We will be asking staff to do the same.
- We will be keeping our children in 'bubbles' of 8 to 10 children and at least two adults. Each 'bubble' will stay together throughout the day and won't mix with other children.
- We will be cleaning our hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly
- We will teach our children about good hygiene through a 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting.
- We will be cleaning more often and more thoroughly, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles and play equipment.
- Children will be given their own set of resources to use and will have their own desk. The desks are positioned 2m apart.
- When you drop your child off or pick them up, we ask that you physically distance from other parents with their child, from staff, and that only one parent from each household drops off and picks up. Where possible, other children should stay at home.



making physics matter





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- Children will not be able to bring items, including books, book bags backpacks, from home to school. We will not be sending things home with the children.
- If a child displays symptoms at school, they will be isolated until a parent or carer collects them.
- If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in your child's 'bubble', you will be informed and all children and staff will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.
- We will limit the number of people who can come onto the school site: parents will be asked to drop off and pick up at the gate and anyone coming into the office will need to phone in advance to make an appointment.

Dropping off and Picking up your Child

From the Wednesday 10th June, parents will not be allowed on site so we are asking parents to queue on the pedestrian path by the double gates in the Church carpark, using the markers as a guide to social distancing. A member of staff will then take your child and they will be guided into the classroom by the Year 1 staff.

Year1 children should be dropped off at **9.15am**. If you arrive by car and notice that there several parents queuing by the gate, please stay in your car until the queue has gone down.

At the end of the day, the children will be taken to the carpark gate at **3pm** where they will be released one at a time to their parent or carer. Again, we are asking parents to queue on the pedestrian path by the double gates in the church carpark, using the markers as a guide to social distancing.

We will only be open from Monday to Thursday and will close to pupils on a Friday. This will allow staff necessary planning time and will enable a weekly deep clean of classrooms.

School will not be able to provide wraparound provision.





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Groups

Based on the information you have already given use regarding whether you would be sending your child into school, the children have been organised into 3 groups - or 'bubbles' - as follows:

Group 1 - based in Year 2 classroom with Mrs Muntoni, Mrs Mayes and Mrs Wing	Alan, Kimberly, Tommy T, Ephraim, Zahra
Group 2 - based in Year 3 classroom with Miss McKelvie and Mr Shale	Alexis, Amelia, Joshua, Leah, Aleks, Lucas, Riley-Rhys
Group 3 - based in Year 6 with Mrs Walker and Mr Clarke	James, Lilaa, Orla-Mai, Jayden, Tommy D, Savanna, Samuel

Lunchtime Arrangements

All children in Year 1 are entitled to universal free school meals. We will be providing a grab bag containing sandwiches, fruit, a drink and dessert which will be freshly prepared off site and delivered to the school. Your child will be able to choose from ham, tuna or cheese sandwiches each day. The children will eat their lunch with their 'bubble' either in the classroom or outside. We will not be providing hot meals.

If you would prefer to provide your own lunch, you must send it into school in a disposable bag as lunch boxes will not be allowed.

If you have been receiving vouchers through the government free school meals voucher scheme, you will now only receive a voucher for the days that your child does not come into school.

Uniform

We would like you to send your child into school in uniform. However, if your child has grown out of their uniform and it no longer fits we do not expect you to buy new uniform at this point of the year. We do ask that the children don't wear their school tie as this could be a source of infection. Your child does not need to bring their PE kit into school but they will need to wear shoes that are sturdy enough for PE activities. Could you also send in a named sun hat, which will stay in school, and apply all day sun cream (we will be spending more time outdoors). Staff are not





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allowed to apply sun cream.

Despite all these measures, you can be reassured that Year 1 will still be a welcoming, fun and stimulating place for your child. Even though they may not be able to play with all of their friends, they will be able to play with some of them and your child will still benefit socially, emotionally and academically from returning to school.

When the children return, routines will remain as familiar as possible while allowing for more time for washing hands. The children will initially be focusing on mindfulness – we want to ensure that the children are happy and want to skip into school every day. There will of course be a focus on phonics and early reading, including encouraging reading for pleasure through daily story times. The children will also continue with their maths learning and learning through different themes.

Please note that whilst we will endeavour to put in place every possible measure to safeguard your children (and our staff) on their return to school we understand that that very young children who have not seen each other in months are likely to struggle to understand or keep to these new 'rules'. As such, we cannot completely eliminate the risk in relation to the virus; however, we can assure you that we have done our utmost to put in place practical measures, together with new ways of working, which minimise the risk as far as reasonably possible. These will be under continuous review to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep your child safe.

Once again, let me reassure you that the safety of your child and the staff is, and remains, our number one priority.

If you have any concerns about your child's return to Year 1 please contact the school by phone or email. Alternatively, you can contact Miss Punch via Dojo.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your child back to Our Lady of the Assumption.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Askew
Headteacher

Mr M Sharkey
Chair of Governors

