

26th February 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

We are delighted to be able to welcome all pupils back to All Souls from Monday 8th March. We know that 2021 has not started as many had hoped or imagined and we have greatly missed seeing our children and families during over the last two months. This letter should hopefully answer many of the questions you may have regarding the reopening of the school and reassure you that we continue to take seriously our role in keeping our children, families and staff safe during this pandemic. We have all worked too hard and come too far to now let our guard down as restrictions are slowly being eased and so we ask that you read this letter carefully and discuss its contents with your child so that they are best prepared for the return to school.

Drop-off at the start of the school day:

As during the Autumn term, there will be a staggered start to the school day, however, this will now be determined alphabetically by surname as opposed to year groups. This will allow all children from a family to arrive at school at the same time. We will be operating four 10 minute arrival windows, which have been allocated as follows:

- 8:30-8:40am - Children with surnames beginning A-D & Nursery children and their older siblings
- 8:40-8:50am - Children with surnames beginning E-K
- 8:50-9:00am - Children with surnames beginning L-R
- 9:00-9:10am - Children with surnames beginning S-Z

As you arrive at the entrance to the school drive, a member of staff will be there to greet you and direct your child(ren) into school. Only parents of children in Nursery will be allowed along the driveway – and they will be able to take their children around to the classroom as was the case before Christmas. Children in Years R-4 will enter the school site from the pedestrian gate, which will also be manned by staff members and into the school building through their classroom door. Years 5 and 6 children will enter via the hall doors and make their way to their classroom.

Collection at the end of the school day:

At the end of the school day, for most children, the routine will be as it was during the Autumn term. Reception and Years 1-2 will be dismissed from their classroom doors at 3:00pm. The significant change however, will be that any parents who are collecting children from Years R-2 will then also be able to collect their children from Years 3-4 (from their classroom doors) and from Years 5-6 (from the hall doors) as they make their way off site – as opposed to waiting for these to be dismissed at 3:15pm. Staff will ensure that children in Years 3-6 who have younger siblings are ready at 3:00pm. For all other children in Years 3-6, they will be dismissed at 3:15pm as previously, from the playground (Years 3-4) and the drive entrance by the hall (Years 5-6). We ask parents to

support us in keeping the school site as clear as possible by ensuring that they arrive and depart promptly when dropping off or collecting. Please do not congregate in groups and resist the temptation to enter into conversations with other parents.

Uniform and equipment:

We are acutely aware that some parents have purchased uniform which has so far remained unworn which, if not used, may become redundant soon. Therefore, we are a flexible approach to uniform for the remainder of the academic year to limit any further financial burden on families. We are giving children/parents two options with regards to uniform:

- 1) Children can continue to attend daily in their school PE kit (a combination of PE top with navy shorts or tracksuit as appropriate)
- 2) Wear a traditional school uniform (Winter or Summer) on non-PE days and arrive at school in PE uniform on the days where PE is timetabled. Class teachers will inform you as to which days this will be and any changes will be notified via the weekly newsletter. Please note that our current risk assessment does not allow for children to change for PE in school.

If you require any additional uniform, please note that Andy Blair is open for click and collect from March 1st – the details of which are available on his website (<https://coventryschoolwear.com/>). PE tops can continue to be purchased directly from the school.

Irrespective of whether PE is scheduled, please ensure that your child has a pair of outdoor trainers (and ideally wellies too) in school at all times as exercise and outdoor learning will continue to play a vital part in our recovery curriculum. As always, please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's full name.

Aside from a lunchbox and water bottle, children should not bring any other items in to school each day. Once we are again settled into a routine, we will give you details as to how reading books will be issued and returned.

School Lunches

School lunches will be continued to be available as usual and should you wish for your child to have these, please order and pay in the usual way. As during the Autumn term, children will, for the time being, continue to eat their lunch in the classroom.

Before and After-school Provision (All Sorts)

Currently we are uncertain as to the future of the before and after school provision due to the financial impact of the last 12 months. Unless there is a significant uptake of places it is unlikely that the service will be financially viable and may have to permanently close. We are aware that a similar picture exists locally and nationally. We also know that this will cause considerable anxiety for many of our parents and so we therefore need to work together if we are to secure the future of All Sorts extended school provision. As a matter of urgency, and by midday next Tuesday by the very latest, if you are requesting use of the service from the 8th of March, **please contact Sharon Bennett** (allsorts@allsoulsschool.co.uk) detailing all sessions that you would like. A decision can then be made and parents informed with as much notice as possible. All Sorts Early Years care has not been impacted to the same degree and therefore will continue as normal.

Curriculum

We are currently working with our teaching staff to make the necessary adjustments to the curriculum so that the children, upon return to school will be cared for and time curriculum time is used as effectively as possible. A brief newsletter, welcoming your child back, containing information and a brief outline of the curriculum for the next few weeks will be emailed out next Friday.

Extra-curriculum activities

We are looking to resume a range of extra-curriculum activities after the Easter Holidays once further local and nation guidance has been issued. Details of these will be sent to you in due course.

Finally, we'd like to re-iterate how much we are looking forward to seeing the children return to school. Thank you for your support throughout these difficult times and the support we know you will give us going forwards.

Best wishes,



Mrs Quinn