



Friday 17th September 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a relaxing and well rested summer. It is with great pride when we say it has been a wonderful start to the academic year. The pupils, as always, have been an absolute credit to yourselves. They have shown themselves to be polite, respectful, hard working and it has to be noted - have grown in independence during the summer break.

A huge thank you to you all for your continued support in helping to ensure a smooth transition back to school for all our pupils. Thank you for your patience with reference to routines and procedures for entering and exiting school. This is working effectively and allows a prompt start for pupils each day. A huge welcome to our new Reception children and their parents. The children have settled into school remarkably well and are familiarising themselves with routines and expectations.

We also extend a warm welcome to our new members of teaching staff. Mr Joyeux in Year Six, Miss Mullen in Y3/4 and Mrs Wilson teaching across the school. They have settled in so well and are enjoying being an integral part of the St Edward's school family. Huge congratulations also go to Miss Stamp, who married during the summer break and is now known to the pupils as Mrs George. We wish her and husband all the very best for their future happiness.

COVID

Please be reassured that rigorous control measures operate across the school. As the whole country moved towards Step 4 of the Roadmap, it allowed schools to return to some normality. We all need to play our part in preventing the spread of the virus. For schools, this will mean:

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Brown | Head of School: Mrs A Teasdale
St Edward's Catholic Primary School, Eastbourne Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QS
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- From Step 4, your child does not need to remain in a consistent group (bubble) However, in relation to school assemblies and collective worship children will attend in these their Key Stages.
- Pupils will be encouraged to maintain good hand hygiene. Staff will encourage children to wash/sanitise hands regularly throughout the day.
- School will no longer trace close contacts - close contacts will still be identified through NHS Test and Trace.
- Children will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.
- You must not send your child to school if they are showing one or more coronavirus symptoms or if they have had a positive test result. They will need to isolate as advised.
- From Step 4, face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff or visitors either in classrooms and or communal areas.

However, if an outbreak were to occur in school, we may have to consider the reintroduction of bubbles or to keep groups apart for a temporary period to reduce mixing between groups.

We will continue to take precautions in line with DFE guidance such as:

- Pupils will be encouraged to maintain good hand hygiene.
- Ensuring good respiratory hygiene, by promoting the "catch it, bin it, kill it" approach. Lidded bins are situated in every classroom.
- *The Government is removing the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet.*

As always, if you have any queries please contact the school office for further information.

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PE

PE is an integral part of our school curriculum and contributes highly not only towards physical health but also the mental health and well-being of all of our pupils. Provision is made across the school for children to take part in two hours physical activity per week. The table below outlines the PE days for each year group. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on their allocated day.

Year Group	Day/s
Reception	Monday
Year 1	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 2	Wednesday and Friday
Year 3/4B & Y3/4C	Tuesday and Thursday
Y3/4M	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 5	Wednesday and Friday
Year 6	Tuesday and Thursday

School Meals

Caterlink are now our provider for school meals (see previous letter) The menus will be published on our school website as well as on our Facebook page. Please share these menus with your children in advance. The cost of a school meal is £2.20 and can be paid for via ParentPay.

Gentle Reminders:

For safeguarding purposes, mobile phones are not permitted to be used on the school premises when bringing your children to and collecting from school.

School uniform:

The children look so smart in their uniform. Thank you for your support with this. It ensures that standards remain high and pupils, as always, reflect these

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standards. If you have any queries regarding this, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school. Just a reminder that the wearing of jewellery by pupils is not permitted due to health and safety reasons. Full school uniform is outlined below:

<p>Foundation Stage - Nursery and Reception: A navy-blue sweatshirt or cardigan and a pale blue polo shirt.</p>	<p>In Reception class, Pupils should wear grey shorts or trousers, or skirts and pinafores.</p>
<p>Key Stage 1 and 2 (boys and girls) Blue shirt, school tie, navy V-neck jumper or cardigan, grey trousers or shorts, grey skirt or pinafore.</p>	<p>During the summer term blue check gingham dresses. Blue polo shirts may be worn.</p>
<p>Footwear - Black Shoes, NOT trainers. Grey or navy socks/tights</p>	
<p>P.E. Uniform (boys and girls). Because of the very nature of PE and dance all children should have a change for these lessons.</p>	
<p>Indoor PE White T-shirt, navy shorts and black plimsolls.</p>	<p>Outdoor PE White T-shirt, navy blue jogging/tracksuit bottoms Navy blue sweatshirt/jumper (no logo needed), Black Trainers</p>

Parking:

With regards to parking, please remember do not park in the **curial office**. The car park can become quite full and poses a health and safety concern. This is also a private car park and should not be used as a dropping off point or a pedestrian walkway. Pedestrian access is **not allowed** through the car park area. Parents and children wanting to access the Key Stage 2 playground via the Church can only do so

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by coming through the Holy Name of Mary gateway and walking along the pathway next to the Church into the playground. The health and safety of all concerned is paramount at all times. In an effort to reduce congestion around the school entrances, as you are aware, the school has been given permission for parents to park their cars in the Middlesbrough Theatre Car Park on The Avenue. If needed, we encourage parents to use this facility and walk the short distance to school.

Year group curriculum newsletters will be shared with you Friday 17th September and available on our website on Monday 20th September. We look forward to sharing all the wonderful work that happens throughout the year on our school website and Facebook page.

Senior leaders are also in the process of organising dates for events this academic year. Again, this will be shared with you so you can plan the academic year ahead. More details later.

In closing, we would like to thank you once again for your continued support as we journey through this academic year. I truly believe that by working together we will make a difference- together we will ensure a very successful year for our children.

Have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Best wishes,

MD Brown

Executive Headteacher

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