

Monday 20th July

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write to you to set out the arrangements we have made to open fully from September 7th.

Before I set out these arrangements, I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their understanding and cooperation since we had to close to the majority of children from March. I know that this period has been challenging for many families, in particular when you have had to juggle work commitments with managing childcare, if you have children with special educational needs or disability, or if you are a single parent.

I am pleased to let you know that, further to the government's announcement that all schools are opening fully to all year groups from 7th September, we are working hard to take the necessary steps to be ready to welcome back all children.

The children will be operating in three 'bubbles' which will be the same as their current class groups with different start and finish times. If you have children in more than 1 'bubble' then we can arrange the same start and finish times so that you are not waiting around. Please contact the school office and we can provide you with times. Children from Class 1 and Class 2 will enter via the Rainbow gates, at the side of the school. A staff member will be there to greet you. Class 3 will enter via their classroom door. Please can we ask that parents do not enter the school buildings without phoning first to arrange an appointment.

Bubble 1 – Mrs McClounnan/Mrs Cusack - Foundation Year 1

Times 8.45am to 3pm

Bubble 2 – Mrs Waiters/Ms Duke - Years 2 and 3

Times 9am to 3.15pm

Bubble 3 - Mrs Brown/Mrs Rowden/Ms Colledge (mornings) - Years 4/5 & 6

Times 8.30am to 2.45pm

Foundation children will be asked to do half days for the first week starting Monday 7th September. This is to get them used to school life. They should arrive at 8.45am and get picked up by 12pm. Foundation children will be fulltime w/b Monday 14th September, starting at 8.45am and finishing at 3pm. If you have any queries regarding this then please email the school office.

Please can we ask children to bring in the minimal from home. Coats, packed lunches, PE kits and their reading book. Children will be issued with a reading book, once it is returned to school it will be out of circulation for 48 hours or 72 hours if it has a plastic cover. Please can we ask that toys and personal belongings are not brought in from home. Scooters and footballs will not be permitted from September. We will have more children back and need to keep everyone as safe as possible.

During the school day pupils will remain in their classroom areas. They will not be permitted to walk around the school. Staff will remain as much as possible within their bubble. Meals will be eaten in their classroom. Whole school gatherings such as assemblies will be in the classrooms via zoom. Classrooms have walkie-talkies so that staff can contact the office or other classrooms to minimise staff walking around the building. Hand washing will be encouraged throughout the school day. Please can you work with your child on this so that they understand how to wash their hands properly. Face coverings will not be encouraged to be worn in school. If your child has come to school wearing a face covering then they will need a plastic bag to put it in when they remove it and will need to wash their hands following removal of the face covering.

Children will need to return to school in full school uniform. If it is a warm day then please can they come to school with sunscreen already applied as staff will not be able to do this for them. Please can they have a coat in school for rainy weather. We are very lucky with how much outdoor space we have and would like to be able to work and play outside as much as possible.

Please can we ask that you leave the school grounds as soon as you have dropped your children. Please do not stay on site to chat to other parents. We would recommend that you continue to stay 2M apart from other families as much as possible.

School clubs will resume in September, when bookings will be taken. Spaces are limited and will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis.

All clubs to commence the w/b 14th September. Details will follow in September.

Thursday - Sport's club with Coach Ben for Years 1 to Year 6 sign up on the Saints Southwest website. There is a small charge for this club payable to Saints Southwest directly.

We have some lovely news. Mrs Lang has had a baby girl, Jade Louise, a little sister for Olivia. We wish the family well.

We have appointed two teaching assistants to join our team in September. We are delighted to welcome Ms Colledge and Ms Duke to St Johns. Ms Colledge joins us from the 11th September and will be joining the class 3 team and working every morning. Ms Duke will be working with Class 2. The children who have been in school have met both ladies and Bubble 2 and Bubble 3 have had a chance to spend some time with them.

I have attached a brief questionnaire about your child's experiences during lockdown. Please can you email these back to the school office. This is to help us to plan for the children's return in September. All information on them will be confidential and only shared with Mrs Hamilton, Mrs Bridges and the class teacher.

Please feel free to contact the school office with any questions either by emailing the admin address. If you have any concerns about your child returning then please email the school office and we will contact you back over the holiday period. We are keen to get every child back into school as recommended by the government.

We have 5 year 6 children leave us this term. We wish them well in the future. They leave us for KEVICCS, Dartmouth Academy and Kingsbridge Academy. They have been a lovely, small cohort and they have been a pleasure to have as part of our school community.

We wish you all a lovely summer and look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Kind regards



Liz Hamilton

