

St. Margaret's C of E Primary School (V.A.)

Hive Street
Hollinwood
Oldham
OL8 4QS

Headteacher: Mr D Whittle
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs R Whittle
Chair of Governors: Fr Tom Davis



20th August 2021

Dear families,

Re: 6th September 2021 full reopening information

We cannot wait to welcome our wonderful children back to school and have lots of exciting things to show them that have been happening over the school holidays - including a brand new school library!

While we are excited to get all our children back to school, safety continues to remain our ultimate priority. COVID-19 continues to pose a threat; whilst the 'Bubble System' no longer is a requirement, schools have been advised to continue to implement procedures to minimise risk of infection. This letter sets out the guidance from the start of Autumn Term 2021 - familiarising yourself with the details of this letter will help us provide a positive start to the new academic year.

We have taken the time to review all of the most recent government, DfE and Public Health England guidance and have adapted procedures and operational structures already in place that will minimise risk and provide everyone in our school with as safe an environment as possible.

We will be continue to focus on three core priorities:

1. Maintaining our rigorous procedures to minimise risk of infection
2. Supporting pupils' wellbeing
3. Closing pupils' gaps in learning and ensuring their progress is accelerated.

The information in this letter is correct at the time of writing. However, as has happened multiple times already since the beginning of this pandemic, it is subject to change for example as restrictions are lifted or new measures put in place.

I have highlighted below a set of FAQs to explain school organisation in September. Should you have any further questions in advance of the 6th September, the school office will be open from Tuesday 31st August.

Mr Whittle
Headteacher

What time will school start and finish?

On Monday 6th September, school will open to all pupils. In order to maintain social distancing and limit the amount of people on the school site at one time, we have been advised to continue to stagger the start and end times of the school day. Below is a table which will inform parents of the start and end times of each class and where they should drop off and pick up their children. We ask all parents to ensure that they adhere to these times. When dropping off your children we ask that you leave the school site as quickly as possible to limit large gatherings.

Class	Start and finish times*	Entrance and exit	PE Day*
Nursery	8.45 - 11.45 (am session only) 12.30 - 3.30 (pm session only) 8.45 - 3.3.0 (full day)	Nursery gate	Not applicable
Reception	8.55 - 3.15	Nursery Gate	Every Thursday
Fox	8.45 - 3.05	Prayer Corner Gate - top of Lonsdale Road	Every Friday
Chamber	8.55 - 3.15	Prayer Corner Gate - top of Lonsdale Road	Every Friday
Brook	8.55 - 3.15	Main Gate - front pedestrian gate on Hive Street	Every Tuesday
Twist	8.45 - 3.05	Beehive Gate - gate at side of Beehive building on Grammar School Road (see sign)	Every Tuesday
Devon	8.55 - 3.15	Beehive Gate - gate at side of Beehive building on Grammar School Road (see sign)	Every Monday
Durban	8.55 - 3.15	Garden Gate - far gate on Grammar School Road (see sign)	Every Monday
Heron	8.45 - 3.05	Large car park gate (Grammar School Road - see sign)	Every Wednesday
Oak	8.45 - 3.05	Garden Gate - far gate on Grammar School Road (see sign)	Every Wednesday

*** PE will start from the very first week of school - therefore children should come dressed in their PE kit on their designated day that week.**



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Our drop-off and pick-up systems during the last academic year have been very effective and we thank parents for their support and understanding in keeping to the rules and timings. We ask that you continue to support school and understand the need to continue with the staggered drop off and pick ups to ensure your child's safety.

We are still unable to permit parents access to the inside of the school building or onto school grounds. If you need to speak to a member of staff please telephone the school office.

What should my child wear to school? What about PE?

Children should wear their school uniform. To further limit the spread of the virus we will also not require children to bring into school a PE kit. Instead we will be inviting the children to come into school on the day they have PE in their PE kit (light blue t-shirt with school jumper on top and a choice of either dark coloured leggings or jogging bottoms. They should also wear trainers on these days.

What should my child bring to school?

School needs to limit the number of items being brought into school to reduce the risk of virus transmission. We therefore ask that only coats, lunch boxes and water bottles are brought into school on a daily basis.

We are also intending for all children to be given their own individual pack of stationery to avoid cross contamination, this will consist of the usual pen and/or pencil, ruler, white board and pens and also include any other learning aides as required.

Will there be any after-school activities? Will the breakfast club be running?

Initially, while we await updated information from Oldham Public Health, we will not be running any after-school clubs or breakfast club. Once we are confident that these clubs can run, we will let parents know.

What extra precautions are in place with regards to cleaning and hygiene?

While COVID-19 continues to pose a threat, it is very important that we keep the school environment as clean as possible. As we have been doing for the last 18 months, school will continue to carry out an enhanced cleaning and hygiene rota:

- children will be supervised washing their hands frequently throughout the day - before and after eating any food, before and after playing outside, going to the toilet, etc. In addition they will be required to wash their hands when entering the classroom. From year one upwards, children will occasionally be supervised using hand sanitizer in place of washing their hands if necessary. If you do not wish for this to be the case please inform your child's class teacher.
- a member of the cleaning team will be onsite throughout the day to continually clean door handles, toilets, etc.
- cleaning materials will be available in each classroom so that staff can maintain high standards of hygiene throughout the day.
- waste will be disposed of in a hygienic and safe manner.

Please ensure you support these precautions by sending your child to school each day with a water bottle and take it home to be cleaned each night.



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What if a member of our household feels ill?

If your child is ill, then you must inform school before 10:00am. If they are not showing any symptoms related to Covid-19 then usual sickness rules apply (your child must not return to school until 48 hours after their last case of vomiting or diarrhoea). If children feel ill during school normal procedures will apply - children will be sent home if they are too ill to remain in school.

If your child is showing any Covid-19 related symptoms:

- high temperature
- new continuous cough
- loss of smell or taste

they should remain at home and either isolate for 10 days or take a PCR (not lateral flow/rapid test) and isolate while waiting for the result. Public Health dictates that if anyone in school develops [COVID-19 symptoms](#), however mild, they should be sent home and public health advice followed.

Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#). They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).

Anyone with COVID-19 [symptoms](#) or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you should stay at home and self-isolate. From 16 August 2021, if you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months [you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19](#).

You could be fined if you do not self-isolate following a notification by NHS Test and Trace^{[footnote 11](#)}. You may be entitled to a one-off payment of £500 through the [NHS Test and Trace Support Payment scheme](#) if you are required to stay at home and self-isolate or you are the parent or guardian of a child who has been told to self-isolate.



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