

St George & St Martin Catholic Academy

(Member of The Newman Catholic Collegiate)

Boulton Street, Birches Head,

Stoke-on-Trent. ST1 2NQ.

Telephone No: 01782 234384

E-mail: sgsmcp@sgsmnewman.co.uk

www.sgsmacademy.co.uk

Principal: Mrs. D. Farmer BA (Hons), MA, NPQH



'Growing, Learning and Loving; United in Play, Prayer and Peace'

29th May 2020

Dear Parents

I write to further update you following the government's announcement that Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will return to school on Monday 1st June. The staff have been working very hard to ensure the school is ready to reopen safely following the government guidelines. Please do read these guidelines by following this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>. You can see a variety of photos on our school Facebook page.

We now have our registers for the 1st June. If your child is in either Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 and you would like your child to attend at a later date, we will need at least 1 weeks' notice. This is also the case if you are a key worker and you would like your child to begin attending. All children attending school will need to wear school uniform, with the exception of a tie.

If you have requested that your child attends from 1st June, you should have received a text message telling you the drop-off and pick-up times for your child's group. These have to be staggered to ensure we do not have too many people on the playground. Only 1 parent will be allowed to bring their child to school and collect. Only parents should be dropping off and collecting their own child at the moment.

When you arrive at school, you will need to come through the small gate that is on the car park, please use the buzzer at the barrier. You will then need to take your child to the correct drop off point. Please only arrive at school at your child's drop-off and collection time, do not arrive early and be waiting on the playground. If you have to wait on the playground to drop-off or pick-up siblings, please wait on the playground. Always remain 2 metres away from other families and ensure your child does not run around the playground, they need to remain with you at all times. Once you have dropped off your child, you will need to leave through the main access gate, using the buzzer to exit.

When the children arrive at school they will wash their hands before entering the classroom they are going to be based in. The children will wash their hands throughout the day. The children will need to bring to school a named water bottle, there will be no water fountains in use, a healthy snack, and a packed lunch (unless they are having a school lunch). The children will be based in the same classroom for the day, eating lunch at their named table. Please do not send any other things in with your child, there is no need for pencil cases, books, drawing pads, or anything else. Children must not bring masks into school, as masks if not used correctly can spread the virus more. All children must have a bath/shower when they arrive home and their school uniform must be washed, this is to protect your family.

You **MUST NOT** send your child to school if you or anyone in your household is displaying symptoms of coronavirus. If this is the case, please inform school immediately. You **MUST** keep your child at home and arrange for them, and everyone in your household to be tested.

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School will continue to provide home learning for children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5. This will be on the school website as usual each week. For children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, there will be no home learning provided for those children not attending as the teachers will be teaching the children in school and cannot provide both. I would like to direct you to BBC Bitesize and The Oak National Academy, both excellent websites with daily lessons that can be followed.

Fortnightly telephone calls will continue with classteachers for Years 2, 3, 4 and 5. Children not attending school in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will continue to receive a phone call fortnightly, but this may not be from their class teacher, it may be from a TA or another class's teacher. However, if you have any concerns you will be able to contact me at school by calling 234384.

If your child or anyone in your household is classed as clinically extremely vulnerable, please contact school if you have not already done so to discuss how we can support you. However, these children must NOT attend school. These are very strange times and I want to thank our wonderful school community for everything they have done during these times:

- Our staff, ensuring children have had work to do, making phone calls, completing online training, ensuring things are ready for next year, and the last couple of weeks getting our school ready.
- Our parents, doing the job of a teacher each day, but also trying to be mum/dad, possibly trying to work at the same time, ensuring they are looking after their child's mental well-being above all other things.
- Our extended families, who we haven't been able to see for such a long time, but we now know just how much they mean to us.
- Father Adrian and the parish, who have remembered all of us in their prayers during this time, a time where we haven't been able to attend church or be a part of our parish community.
- Our school governors, who have continued to support the school during this time.
- And finally, our amazing children. It's not been easy to be taken out of school, some not really sure why, others scared that something may happen to them or people they love. They may not have done work every day (I know my own children haven't), but they will have learnt so much during these times, things that we wouldn't teach at school. They may have learnt a new skill, like sewing or knitting, they may have learnt how to cook or bake, they may have learnt to love the outdoors, they may have learnt facts from the things they have watched, they may have learnt thinking skills with the games that they've played (including console games), they may have learnt to be happy in their own company.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours faithfully

D. Farmer

Mrs D Farmer
Principal

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