



Full Opening of School – September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to share some of our plans for a full return to school in September for all classes.

Our priority at all times continues to be to keep everyone as safe as we possibly can.

Therefore **It is essential that families inform us immediately of anyone in their family who is experiencing symptoms of Covid 19.**

At St Mary's we will continue:

- Enhanced cleaning of the school;
- Regular hand-washing;
- Engagement with NHS Test and Trace;
- Reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school;
- For coughs and sneezes: Catch it, bin it, kill it;
- We will monitor and revise our risk assessment and be prepared for any local lockdown
- We will need to stagger start times, finish times breaks and lunches to avoid transmission between phase bubbles.

Every child's education is important and we believe it is essential that they remain engaged and motivated. We will keep the curriculum as broad and balanced as we can whilst identifying any areas that require catch-up. Phase group 'bubbles' allow us lots of flexibility in terms of the timetable and we believe we have already established some very healthy practices and routines around the school site including regular handwashing, increased cleaning and regular cleaning regimes.

What we do know is that the start of the next school year will need to look a bit different from what was previously publicised. We haven't been able to give the new Reception Class their usual welcome to school and so we are keen to make sure they are given our full attention early on. It is always a challenge to start 'big school' and this may be even harder this year.

We hope all pupils will return to school on Thursday 3rd September and have planned transition activities to help them to adjust to new school routines. Please do make sure the usual standards apply in terms of uniform, shoes, haircuts and equipment. The children should come to school in PE kit on the days they have PE – they do not need to wear uniform. This should include trainers and, if cold, tracksuit bottoms and a hoodie with a coat if wet. Your child's teacher will let you know which days are PE days in the coming week.

We have plenty of hand-sanitiser in school, but if you have a child in Year 5 or 6, it would be helpful for them to bring along their own hand sanitiser. We also encourage these children to walk, ride or scooter to school if you feel it is safe to do so.

There are changes to drop-off and collection times to reduce crowding (see below). Please ensure that your child arrives on time and is collected on time. **We want to keep children and parents moving to avoid unnecessary contact so we have introduced a 'drop and go'**



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zone. This will be a coned-off area to drop children after entering the Main Gate and then parents are asked to exit the South Gate **straight away**.

Classes	Phase	Arrival time	Way In	Pick-up time	Exit from building	Exit gate
Blake Craigweil	Y3 / Y4	8.40	Parish Gate	3.00	Outside door Outside door	Main Gate Main Gate
Marine	Y3 / Y4	8.40	Main Gate	3.00	Outside door	South Gate
Wheatland Hotham Regis	Y5 / Y6	8.40	Main Gate	3.00	Parish Hall Front doors Front doors	Main Gate South Gate South Gate
Ocean Beach	Y1 / Y2	8.50	Main Gate	3.10	KS1 door KS1 door	South Gate South Gate
Seagull	Y1 / Y2	8.50	Main Gate	3.10	Front doors	Main Gate
Shell Starfish	Early Years	9.00	Main Gate	2.50	EYFS Playground	South Gate South Gate

The Main Gate and South Gate will be **one way** in the morning. Please do not wait on the playground as this will mean that bubbles mix. Early Years parents may wait in the EYFS play area until the children are collected. If you have children in different bubbles please **arrive for the earlier start** and your child can go straight to their class. We have purchased a new bike and scooter rack for Early Years and key stage one to avoid crossing the bubbles.

Parents are welcome to enter the playground at collection time but maintain a one metre distance wherever possible. A map will be provided to show the different collection areas in the playground. Unless it is an emergency, please only communicate with the office via email. By reducing the number of people who enter the school we will minimise the risk of infection.

If you do have any questions at this stage, please email the school office:

office@stmarysbognor.co.uk.

Best wishes to you all,

Mr Edgington, Headteacher.