

Saint Edmund's and Saint Thomas' Catholic Primary School

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23rd February 2021

CORONA VIRUS UPDATE 40

Dear Parents,

Perhaps it came as no great surprise that the Prime Minister's announcement confirmed that schools would open to all children on 8th March and that there would be a **cautious** easing of restrictions over the coming months given the reported success of the early stages of the vaccination programme and the impacts of this lockdown on reducing transmission.

The school will return to its operating standard from the Autumn term and its arrangements for drop off and collection times will prevail. Whilst an air of cautious optimism is presented through the media, we are clear that our approach is still guided by risk management and general issues of health and safety and we will proceed from the needs and particular circumstances of our school.

Half term break was limiting for everybody but I am certain that the children will look forward to seeing their friends and teachers again after such a long time. School will be ready to adapt to the returning children's needs and is eager to pick up the momentum it had built up by the end of the Autumn term.

Significant windows in the school year such as the new arrangements for admissions are now open and the Local Authority had drawn up data sheets for potential applicants. If you or somebody you know did not manage to apply on time for September 2021 Reception class, they will need to contact the Sefton Admissions Team and our school office. Over the next few weeks applications will be prioritised and offers will be made in April. Given the challenging circumstances of the year, it is not unsurprising that some important deadlines may have been missed.

Yesterday, we sent out a letter from the Sefton Health Team to explain to Reception and Year One parents that the arrangements for screening for height, weight, hearing and vision had to be paused due to the pandemic but individual parents with concerns can contact the school nurse team on: nwbh.princestreet0-19@nhs.net secure email account or 0151 247 6354

In the meantime, further announcements will be made by the Department of Education later this week in relation to the wider opening of schools and we will be in contact you again to share any updates.

Yours sincerely

Kieran A Loftus Headteacher