



Saint Edmund's and Saint Thomas' Catholic Primary School

Oxford Road, Waterloo L22 8QF
Tel 0151 928 5586 Fax 0151 928 4352



18th September 2020

Dear Parents,

CORONA VIRUS UPDATE 21

The children started calmly and sensibly with a purposeful attitude across the school. It was regrettable that we had to close the Year 2C bubble and the response from the vast majority of parents towards our new arrangements has been excellent. We talked with Public Health England, the Department for Education and the Local Authority and as you know from your parents' booklet, this procedure for bubble closure will automatically reoccur should anyone test positive in school.

Self-isolation of a class is a preventative measure to restrict transmission. Only if your child displays the corona virus symptoms should you the apply for a test. We are all well aware of the shortages and delays in processing tests in laboratories but sincerely hope we will see significant improvement over the next weeks.

As the school has invested so much time, energy and money into making the school site safe, we will be continually reviewing our procedures and *tightening up* where necessary. **We will be making it compulsory to wear face masks from Monday if you are entering the school site. A letter from the Local authority reaffirms this.**

Reception and Year 1

We will be making some modifications to the Reception and Year 1 drop off and dismissal. Barriers will be set up across the playground with entrance / exit gaps for your child's class. Mrs Devey ,Miss Plunkett and Mrs Tyrrell will be lining up their children for on the playground from Monday 21st September and we ask that you arrive promptly and leave promptly. Communications with staff which require any detail should be emailed or phoned in to the school office. We ask parents not to sit on the benches on the playground and these will be cordoned off.

Children should only enter the site right on their admission time. We aim for a ***continuous movement ,like a conveyor belt*** to drop off and collection, to minimise your waiting and minimising risk.

Please note : Mrs Devey **8.40am and 2.40pm** Miss Plunkett **8.50 and 2.50pm** and Mrs Tyrrell **9.00am and 3.00pm**

In the Pods 3 and 4 entrance Y3 – Y6 timings for drop off and collection have gone well. There is a parents' drop off/ collection area in the playground if you wish to come onto the school site. Many parents have chosen not to do so with concerns about congregation and those using the footpath will adopt their own sensible approach to social distancing. Quick, punctual drop off and collection minimises risk. Children should only enter the site **around** their admission time. This has been working very well. We keep to timings to allow for safe movement and avoid groups merging.

Curriculum

The children are engaged in reading assessments and will be undertaking a wider range of formal assessments next week. Their response has been good and they have settled in well to new classroom routines. Staff know that they will automatically establish online learning should there be any further closures to the bubbles.

Home reading books Reception Years 1, 2 and Year 3 will go out **next Friday** and must be returned **in the bag** the following **Monday** and this will continue until further notice.

Parental Guidance

We have sent out a parental guidance sheet to you to assist in your decision -making for testing purposes if necessary. The office staff cannot really advise you whether to keep a child off school and so you go with your instinct supported by Sefton/ Public Health guidance. There has been great confusion recently when seasonal colds and coughs have been present and many become unsure whether they need a test. As we have said before, if a child is showing Covid symptoms in school we will contact the parent and ask them to make every effort to get a test. Matters of bubble closure and self -isolation will follow depending on the test outcome.

Cashless System

All parents have now received an email from SIMS with an invitation code to go onto SIMS Pay and register for an account. Please check your junk mail if it has found its way in there. We are ready to go cashless!! Please register for the facility, even if you do not pay lunches at present as trips, clubs and other events will be payable through this system in the future.

A reminder to full-time Nursery parents that the £10 / week lunchtime cover fee is to be paid through SIMS via the School Meals tab.

Finally, please read the letter which have attached to this one from Sefton Local Authority regarding the current concerns in Sefton .

I hope you and your families are well and safe and that fine weather makes for a good weekend for all!

Yours sincerely,



Kieran A Loftus Headteacher

