

26-02-21

REF: **Re-opening school 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Dear Parents,

Following the government's decision to lift some lockdown restrictions, **St Thomas Becket Primary will reopen to all children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. As such, I'm sending some important school information which reflects current guidance and requirements.

Attendance back in school is now mandatory across all phases – and the usual rules on school attendance apply.

Please note that we have created a Covid-19 measures area on our school website (under Parent Info) which contains key documents and our overall Covid-19 risk assessments.

**At present we are still required to maintain Year group bubbles, so our protocols for start and end of day will need to continue until restrictions are further lifted.**

### **Staggered Drop off and Pick up Times**

#### **Start of Day**

- **No parents will be allowed on site at start of day to minimise numbers on site.** Parents should only visit the school office by arrangement. Communication with the school office or teachers should initially be by telephone or email. Staff will not be available to discuss issues at drop off or pickup times in order to maintain social distancing as much as possible. Please ensure children arrive at school at the appointed time and are collected punctually.
- Children should arrive at their year group's designated time and go straight to class.
- Siblings will need to come in at same time (parents can choose one of their children's slots) and go directly to their class where there will be a member of staff there to supervise handwashing and settling into class.

#### **End of Day**

As in the autumn term, we want to avoid families having to wait around for longer periods of time while children from various classes are dismissed which would not support social distancing measures. In order to ensure families can leave the site as quickly as possible **we will continue to implement a sibling and non-sibling pick up.**

See ***Drop off and Pick up procedures.***

### **General information**

- Entire year groups will be seen as a bubble. Staff can move across these bubbles for purposes of year group work and pupil interventions.
- Starts and finishes will be staggered - **See separate document *Drop off and Pick up procedures.***
- During breaks and lunchtimes year group/class bubbles will have designated play areas (which will be rotated on a weekly basis to allow access to different areas).

- Each Class/year group will have age appropriate boxes of play equipment for their use.
- Lunches will be staggered and children will eat either outside or in their classroom (not in school hall).
- School uniform: children can choose to wear either summer or winter uniform on return (**please note that after Easter all children must be wearing summer uniform**).
- Children will need to wash hands on entry and regularly throughout the day.
- If children travel to school wearing a face covering- They must wash their hands immediately on arrival and dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again.
- If a child displays symptoms of Covid 19 they will isolate in an identified room supported by a staff member who will be wearing appropriate PPS. PHE guidelines will then be followed with PHE and Croydon being notified and advice followed.
- Children required to self-isolate will have access to school online learning or a pack of resources if preferred.
- Homework will largely be online – so we will continue to use our Google classrooms.
- Communication with parents- we will aim for this to be largely electronic and only than face to face where absolutely necessary (further details will follow).
- No whole school assemblies –Year group assemblies/prayer services can happen and can be online for parents, but without singing. Online recorded assemblies will continue to be used for whole school collective worship.
- School trips: we will recommence these as soon as restrictions allow. Parents will be notified.

#### Classrooms

- Children from Y2 upwards - pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on.
- The school will provide an individual pack of pens, pencils, rubbers etc for each child (not suitable for Reception)
- Surfaces and handles will be disinfected regularly.

#### Games/PE

- Can continue but without contact sports.

#### Music

- Croydon Music Service will recommence musical instrument tuition.

#### Before / After school clubs

- We are hopeful that Before and After School Clubs will start up again after Easter as per the government's road map for coming out of covid restrictions.

I look forward to seeing you all on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Yours sincerely,



Headteacher