

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now completed our first full week of the term and everyone is settling into the many new routines. Thank you to everyone for following our signs, one-way-routes and staggered starting and finishing times.

Some frequently asked questions:

When will my child have their PE lesson?

Day	Classes
Monday	Y6 Mrs Leaford and Mrs Ryan
Tuesday	Y3 Miss Pike and Miss Prescott Y4 Mrs Dutfield and Mrs Ratchford
Wednesday	
Thursday	Y5 Mrs Alty and Mr Turner Y1 Mrs Hart
Friday	Y2 Miss Draper and Y1/2 Mr Sankey

What should my child wear for PE? (Year One – Year Six only)

We have asked that all children come to school dressed in their PE kits. We suggested that PE shorts could be worn under jogging bottoms. This is because of the uncertain weather, at this time of the year. If pupils get too hot, they can then take off their joggers. If they only wear shorts all day, children may get cold as they sit in class. If your child is generally more comfortable in just joggers or just shorts; that's fine. So keep an eye on the weather and decide what will be best for you!

Black leggings are fine.

School sweatshirts or school cardigans over PE tee-shirts.

Why can I not bring in a back pack?

As we have had to re-arrange furniture in our classrooms, with children all facing forward – this means that cloakroom space is more limited.

Empty backpacks, just fall off hooks and cause a tripping hazard.

As children are not bringing any equipment to school – there is no need for a bag. Sandwich bags and bottles are placed on the lunchbox trolley, which cannot accommodate large bags.

Bags are not required for PE kits as children are coming to school dressed in their kits – see above.

What about homework?

Our priority for all children learning at home is to get everyone reading, as often as possible. Please encourage your child with this. If children can read fluently, with confidence and understanding, then the 'world is their oyster'.

Children from Y3 – Y6 can also access TT Rock Stars to practice and improve their mental maths. Please encourage your child to access this programme regularly.

We may also send home learning tasks, which children should be committing to their long term memory – this may include spellings to learn, times tables to practice etc. We will not be sending written home learning tasks, that need to be returned to school, at the moment (because of the need to quarantine anything sent in from home). We will keep this under review.

My child would like to distribute invitations to his birthday party... can he?

We would like to be able to support parents and carers in their arrangements for celebrating children's birthdays. We are happy to pass on invites to your child's class mates, however, because of Covid-19 we must insist on the following:

- Please remember to comply with the law on social gatherings
- All written invites must be placed in one envelope and handed into your child's teacher
- The envelope will be held in 'quarantine' for three days
- Then your invitations can be distributed
- Ensure invitations contain your contact details so that parents can contact you directly (we cannot share phone numbers) to accept the invite. We are not able to collect reply slips on your behalf.

My child attends Nursery; what time should I pick up at the end of the day?

Your child's session will finish at 3pm, unless you have opted to pay for a half hour extension until 3.30pm. If you are collecting your child at 3pm, please collect them first, before collecting your older children from the main school buildings.

What time should I collect my child?

The following table explains our drop off and collection times. This is working very well and there has been very little congestion, with everyone continuing to walk around the site.

Remember:

- Please don't arrive before 8.35am as the site is closed until this time. We want to avoid any queuing at the gate.
- Our usual end of day time is 3.20 pm and this is why we will only release Y5 and Y6 pupils who are walking home alone at 3.20pm.

Group	Family grouping	Drop Off Time	Collection Time
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Year Six pupils and their younger brothers and sisters	8.35 – 8.45am	3.00 – 3.10pm
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year Six and Year Five pupils who have advance written permission to walk home unaccompanied		Dismissed at 3.20pm
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Year Five pupils and their younger brothers and sisters and• All pupils in Mr Sankey's Y1/2 class and their younger brothers and sisters and• All pupils in Miss Draper's Y2 class and their younger brothers and sisters	8.50 – 9.00am	3.10 – 3.20pm
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Year Three pupils and their younger brothers and sisters and• All Year Four pupils and their younger brothers and sisters and• Mrs Hart's Year 1 class and their younger brothers and sisters	9.00 – 9.10am	3.20 – 3.30pm
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reception children with no brothers and sisters in school	9.10 – 9.20am	*2.50 – 3.00pm See below

What time should my Reception child be collected at the end of the day?

*Our Reception children have been gradually starting school over the past week and our last group of 10 children will begin school next Tuesday. These children have not had any introduction to school life because of Covid-19, and therefore we are flexible about their collection and start time.

If you only have a Reception child and would like a quiet pick-up time, then 2.50 is perfect.

Some parents who only have a Reception child, also work, and for them, collection at 2.50pm isn't the best time, so they have arranged to collect their child at 3.20pm instead.

Other Reception parents, who have children in other year groups, have collected at various times between 3.00 and 3.20pm.

When all Reception children have fully started, we will then review our dropping off and collection times. However, at the moment, everything seems to be working well, thanks to everyone co-operating and keeping to the plan.

When do instrumental lessons start?

Guitar lessons for all Year Four pupils started today. The first lesson, was a music curriculum lesson and they will begin using the guitars next week. These are whole class lessons, each Friday afternoon. At the moment, we regret that we will be unable to send your child's allocated guitar home with them each week, as we have done previously. Guitars will remain in school and we will review this over the term.

Other instrumental lessons – We will not be starting individual instrumental lessons at the moment. We are currently working with the instrumental service to establish what we can offer and how this can be safely arranged. We will write out to you in a few weeks, with further plans, for those who are interested in learning a musical instrument.

Refunds for instrumental tuition

We understand that some parents have paid for lessons, last term, that couldn't take place because of school closure. Our office staff are in the process of providing refunds for these lessons. Some refunds will be made in cash, others through Parent Mail, according to how the payment was paid initially. Thank you for your patience with this.

What do I do about snack money?

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year One and Year Two have a healthy snack each day, during the morning break. We ask parents and carers for a voluntary contribution of **£1.00** each week to help to cover this. In addition to snacks, the money is used for on-going consumable items e.g. making of playdough, baking ingredients etc. If possible, we would like you to make payments to school using Parent Mail, so that our staff do not have to handle cash at the door of the classroom. Voluntary contributions can be made weekly, monthly, termly; as you prefer. Thank you!

Remote Learning – what does that mean?

The DFE has asked all schools to ensure that parents and carers know how to access remote learning at home in case their child is unable to attend school for any reason. If your child has to stay at home, we hope to be able to provide teaching and learning through 'Microsoft Teams'.

A short questionnaire regarding your access to devices and to the internet has been sent out today via Parent Mail. You can find the questionnaire in the menu section on the APP – look under FORMS. There are only four questions and it will take less than 30 seconds to complete. It is vital that we have this information, in case a bubble has to close at short notice. We will then know how to sustain learning for your child.

We started to engage with our pupils through 'Microsoft Teams in the Classroom' during July and were successful in working with many children from the present Year Four up-wards. Did your child take part?

We are planning to carry out class meetings for parents with their child through Microsoft Teams in the coming weeks. More information about this will follow soon. In the meantime, please look out for our questionnaire, which can be returned automatically through Parent Mail.

Who can collect my child at the end of the school day?

We understand that adults may not always be available at the end of the school day. Older siblings are allowed to collect their younger brothers and sisters. We ask that the older child should be in year nine at High School, which is the year in which they are 14 years old.

I am running late and my arrangements for pick-up have changed.

Please phone the school office to let us know if there is a problem. The office staff will then pass the message onto the school staff. If you phone after 3pm, our school site is extremely busy and it may take a few minutes to contact your child's teacher with the change to the arrangements. Your child's teacher will not let your child leave with any other adult, until they receive the message from the school office.

If you do know about changes to plans earlier in the day, could you let the school office know as early as possible.

Communication with Parents and Carers

In order to reduce transmission of Covid-19 we ask all parent and carers to communicate with us in the following ways:

- Telephone the school office on 01942 231478
- Send a note in with your child
- Drop an email to enquiries@admin.sacredheart.wigan.sch.uk

My child has symptoms of Covid-19 (Coronavirus) what should I do?

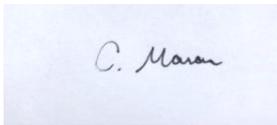
If your child has symptoms they should not attend school. They should stay at home with the rest of their family and a test should be booked.

The symptoms of Coronavirus are:

1. A high temperature
 2. A new, continuous cough
 3. A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.
- Your child and the rest of the family should isolate until the results of the test are known.
 - If the test is negative and your child has been symptom free for 48 hours, then they can return to school.
 - Keep school informed about the outcomes of any tests taken.
 - If your child tests positive, your child must **not** attend school and you must inform school immediately.
 - After a positive test, we will work with our local Public Health Team, to safely plan our next steps.

Finally, thank you for your continuing support. Your children have been amazing during these first few days of our new term. They have settled in very well and are trying very hard with our new routines and rules.

Yours sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Mason".

Mrs Mason

(Headteacher)

PROUD of our children; **PROUD** of our school; **PROUD** of our faith