

The Cathedral School of St Mary
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Email the.cathedral.school@plymouth.gov.uk

<https://cathedral-school.eschools.co.uk>

4th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

School will be open to all children on Monday 8th March. We envisage that some children will be really excited to be back whereas others will have anxieties about returning to school. If you have any concerns regarding your child and their return, please do let the class teacher know through dojo so we can put plans in place to be able to properly support them for their return.

Despite the data of Covid improving, we must remember that we are still in a national lockdown. As a school, we will ensure that we have all of the necessary arrangements to keep the children and staff safe and these will be very similar to what we had in place in the Autumn Term. The main points that you need to be aware of as parents are:

Staggered start and end of day times

	<i>Class 1 – Mrs Gleed</i>	<i>Class 2– Miss Grosch</i>	<i>Class 3– Mrs Berry</i>	<i>Class 4 – Mr Driscoll</i>
<i>Morning Drop-off time</i>	<i>Between 08:30 and 08:50</i>			
<i>Afternoon collection time</i>	<i>15:05</i>	<i>15:15</i>	<i>15:15</i>	<i>15:15</i>

If you have more than one child and you have a child in Class 1, please collect all of your children at 15.05

It is imperative that you are on time for this to work.

At the start of each day, we ask you to drop the children at the gate where they will be met by a member of staff, wash their hands and make their way to their classroom. After school, we will be putting in place the one-way system that we used before Christmas which worked well. You will notice that we have reduced the staggered timings for collection arrangements. When the gates open, please follow the one way system and stand at a cone. An adult will then call your children to you and you will then leave out of the left-hand side of the gate as you exit (this would be the right-hand side as you entered the school grounds).

Only one parent must attend the school site to drop-off and collect their child and we would encourage you to wear a mask when coming onto the school site. We ask in advance that parents do not congregate for conversations.

Breakfast and After School Clubs

Breakfast club will be open on Monday 8th March at 07:30 but we are still holding back on starting any after-school clubs until after Easter when hopefully we will have different opportunities available throughout the summer term. There is no pre-booking required for Breakfast Club – turn up in the usual way and ring the bell where Mrs Brooks will be on hand to meet you.

Contacting the school/visitors

Parents will not be allowed to enter the school building unless it is for a specific meeting agreed by school staff. If you would like to speak with a member of staff, you may request to do so on the playground at the end of a school day from a safe distance but the best option would be through e-mail, dojo or phone conversation. There may be times where visitors will be on site. They will be given clear instructions about our protocols and policies and surfaces such as door handles etc. that they touch will be wiped down and cleaned.

Uniform and PE Kits

We expect children to be in uniform. I imagine that some children will have outgrown their uniform and sourcing new uniform may well have been tricky. Don't worry! If you are struggling with uniform, we ask that children come to school in smart clothes that are close to our uniform, so no bright pink, sparkly jumpers etc. It is advisable that the uniform is washed regularly and that children change into clean clothes when they get home each day. On the days that children have PE, we ask that they come to school for the day in their PE kit. There will be no need for uniform. It is advisable to wear tracksuit bottoms and a t-shirt, with a jumper or tracksuit top to keep them warm. You will be told the days for which your child has PE by your class teacher before the end of the week.

Returning equipment

Love

Aspiration

Teamwork

Resilience

Honesty

Courage

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For anyone who borrowed a chromebook, please return this on March 8th if you have not already done so. We are also asking for all of the home-learning books to be returned so we can see how the children have coped and what work needs to be done next.

Symptoms

The same rules apply. If your child develops any symptoms – do not bring them to school. Testing is incredibly rapid now and most test results are coming through in under 24 hours so please book a test and do not return until your child has tested negative. If a family member has symptoms, the whole household must isolate. We have been incredibly fortunate so far that we have not had to close any bubbles. Please continue to be vigilant and take the virus seriously. For us to enjoy a summer term and get back to normal, we must continue to follow the rules.

Keeping your child safe

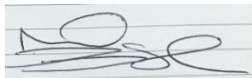
We know some of you will be feeling worried about sending your child back to school. All of our staff are parents ourselves and have our own worries as parents. However, we know that every school has put every effort into making sure the school is safe. Each class will form a bubble which will not mix with other bubbles. Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered.

Resources will be shared within each bubble. Please keep belongings brought to school to a minimum. Acceptable items include bookbags, lunchboxes, water bottles and reading books. Pencil cases should not be brought into school. Only those walking to and from school unaccompanied by an adult should bring a mobile phone. These will be handed to the office. Reading books will be quarantined for 72hrs when returned. No rucksacks/backpacks allowed.

Hand washing will be prioritised. Children will wash their hands when they come into school, before and after break times, before and after lunchtime and before they go home. Children will be taught about the importance of handwashing and respiratory hygiene ('Catch it, Bin it Kill it'). There is no need for children to bring their own hand sanitiser as this is provided to the specification recommended by Public Health England.

We have missed you all and cannot wait to see everyone again from Monday 8th March. If you have any questions beforehand, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Dyson
Headteacher

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Aspiration

Teamwork

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