



St Alban's CE Primary School

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"Educating for life in all its fullness."



2nd March 2021

Dear parents and carers,

We do hope that you are all keeping well and staying safe. We have missed having all of our pupils at school and are so thankful for the wonderful way you have all engaged with online learning since the start of term. In the press there are so many critical opinions and a language of 'lost learning/lost generation'. We truly believe that St Alban's children, staff and parents have demonstrated such resilience and determination to continue learning, that our recovery will not be as marked as the media is suggesting, and as leaders we want to promote a more positive rhetoric that recognises this. Our children are not a lost generation, they are a resilient, dedicated, determined generation of children who have risen to some very difficult challenges and will succeed: we are determined to support them to do this and believe this as school leaders.

Returning in March:

School reopens for **all pupils** from **8th March**. We can't wait to have everyone back!

We will continue to follow the Government guidance on how to keep each other safe and have listed for you below a reminder of how we will be doing this. There are a few changes compared to last time we reopened, including times of opening and closing and use of gates, so please take the time to read the information below again, in particular the box titled 'illness'.

In addition to the information below, all staff are tested twice weekly at school using lateral flow tests. It is also possible for you to order lateral flow tests for your family to use at home, especially as primary school children will not be tested in school (follow this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>).

How will we keep your child safe?

Classes	Classes will continue to work as 'bubbles' and will not mix with other bubbles in large group gatherings such as on the playground or in the hall for assembly. Within their class bubble, they do not need to social distance, although we will always reinforce the importance of this, particularly with junior children. To help us manage staffing ratios and some school routines, we are creating a key stage 'bubble' with two classes, who will not mix in a large group (other than on the playground) but may occasionally have some small group activities such as sport's activities outside or some phonic groups (Read Write Inc) in KS1. This will be managed carefully. This doesn't mean that if a class bubble closes due to a case of Covid that both classes will close, but we will look carefully at close contacts in the other class to see if any pupil or staff member has been in close proximity to the pupil or staff member who has tested positive, in line with PHE guidance. We already do this with Foundation Stage (FS2 and FS1) but will now create a key stage bubble between Y1 and Y2 (KS1), between Y3 and Y4 (Lower KS2) and between Y5 and Y6 (upper key stage 2)
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	- four bubbles across school overall. We have operated in this way with key worker provision in lockdown.
Lessons	Online learning tasks set by class teachers will cease from the 5 th March 2021. Please note that there will be no zoom lessons on Thursday 4 th and Friday 5 th March as well, but work will be posted online for pupils.
Equipment	Classrooms continue to be organised so that children sit side by side and face the front rather than across from each other on a table (however this will be different for FS). We will continue to provide children with their own writing equipment in order to minimise contact and the sharing of resources. Children will need to have their own water bottle in school every day: please make sure they bring this. As always, please label your children's equipment wherever possible in order to minimise shared contact. Please do not let your children bring any equipment into school, other than book bags, a PE kit and a water bottle. All children can now bring their PE kit to school in a PE bag rather than wearing it to school for the day in KS2, but FS and KS1 children need to continue to wear their PE kit on PE days please for now and we will review this in the summer term. They will need to bring their book bag every day and any books that have been used stay within the class bubble and are not to be used by children in the rest of school. When we will use shared resources such as PE equipment or science equipment, for example, we will be disinfecting it after a class bubble has used it.
Social Distancing	Children will be given regular reminders about social distancing and signage is in place, but social distancing cannot be guaranteed as children are children – we are glad the government guidance recognises that and understands that they will not need to social distance within their bubble. Staff continue to ensure they adhere to social distancing guidance when they are in contact with each other.
Hygiene	Children will be given very regular reminders and opportunities for handwashing. Children will be encouraged to wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day. This includes at the start and end of the day, whenever they change rooms, before and after eating.
Cleaning	Our cleaning staff are absolutely dedicated and are working continuously to ensure that the school is a safe environment in which to learn and work. Daily deep cleans take place at the end of each school day and all school staff have a cleaning routine to follow throughout the day on classroom surfaces (handles, equipment, etc) at very regular intervals.
Breaks	All breaks will be at staggered times and in different areas of the school grounds (weather permitting). Children will remain in their set 'key stage bubbles' in order to minimise contact (FS, KS1, Lower KS2, Upper KS2).
Lunchtime	Taylor Shaw will be providing either a hot or cold lunch to those who book one. The menu is now available online for you to order.
Illness	Any child complaining of feeling ill or who has a temperature will be cared for following our usual procedure but will need to self-isolate in the office area and parents/ carers will be contacted to pick up as soon as possible in order to minimise contact with others. If your child or someone in your household is unwell or shows any of the symptoms of Coronavirus, then please <u>do not send them to school under any circumstances</u> in order to prevent the spread of the illness to other children and staff. In this instance, all fellow household members should self-isolate for 10 days and they should be tested. <u>Please let us know urgently if this is the case</u> as ' <i>where a child tests positive, the rest of the class/group should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. The other household members of that wider class/group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.</i> ' (DfE Guidance).

	<i>Rotherham council have issued guidance saying that additional symptoms are now recognised as Covid, including a sore throat, sickness, a headache, aches and pains. If your child or someone in your family have these symptoms, they recommend that you book a test by ticking online the box that says, 'your council have recommended you get a test'. In this instance, please do not send your child to school while you await the results of the Covid test.</i>																														
Uniform	Please send your child in uniform as usual. Guidance says that you do not have to wash uniform any more frequently than you usually would. Ties need to be worn please by KS2.																														
Attendance	All children will need to return to school from 8 th March. Please ensure that school is notified, as soon as possible, of any absence to ensure that children are safeguarded.																														
Access to school	<p>Only staff, children and specialist teachers such as music teachers will be allowed into school. You will need to drop your child off at the gate identified below and at the time mentioned below and collect them from the same place. This will minimise the number of adults within the school grounds and keep our children safer. Staff will be at the school gates ready to collect children from you – please do not worry we will take care of them!</p> <p><i>Please ensure you wear a face covering when dropping off your child or collecting them.</i></p> <p>Should you need to chat to us, please either phone school, message us on DOJO or email us and we will phone you back.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Entrance</td> <td colspan="2" style="background-color: #cfe2f3;">Main Gate</td> <td style="background-color: #fff9c4;">Church Gate</td> <td colspan="2" style="background-color: #ffe0b2;">Tanyard gate</td> <td rowspan="4" style="vertical-align: top; padding-left: 10px;">Where you have siblings in different year groups, please use the main gate, other than Y1, where older siblings can be dropped off and collected at the church gate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Class</td> <td style="background-color: #cfe2f3;">FS 1</td> <td style="background-color: #cfe2f3;">FS2 and Y2</td> <td style="background-color: #fff9c4;">Year 1</td> <td style="background-color: #ffe0b2;">Year 3, Year 4,</td> <td style="background-color: #ffe0b2;">Year 5 and Year 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drop Off time (morning)</td> <td style="background-color: #cfe2f3;">9 am</td> <td style="background-color: #cfe2f3;">8.40 am</td> <td style="background-color: #fff9c4;">8.40 am</td> <td style="background-color: #ffe0b2;">8:40am</td> <td style="background-color: #ffe0b2;">8.45am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pick Up times (afternoon)</td> <td style="background-color: #cfe2f3;">3p m</td> <td style="background-color: #cfe2f3;">3pm</td> <td style="background-color: #fff9c4;">3pm</td> <td style="background-color: #ffe0b2;">3:00 pm</td> <td style="background-color: #ffe0b2;">3.05pm</td> </tr> </table>						Entrance	Main Gate		Church Gate	Tanyard gate		Where you have siblings in different year groups, please use the main gate, other than Y1, where older siblings can be dropped off and collected at the church gate.	Class	FS 1	FS2 and Y2	Year 1	Year 3, Year 4,	Year 5 and Year 6	Drop Off time (morning)	9 am	8.40 am	8.40 am	8:40am	8.45am	Pick Up times (afternoon)	3p m	3pm	3pm	3:00 pm	3.05pm
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We do hope that this letter has answered any questions you have about full reopening of school to all pupils, but please contact us if you have any concerns at all.

Thank you so much for your encouraging kind words, your support at home with learning and for sharing this journey with us as a school community in such an unsettling time.

Yours,

Mrs Alison Adair
Executive Headteacher

Mrs Amy Gurner
Head of School