



St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Today marks the end of the academic year as we look forward to beginning the summer holidays for a well-earned rest for all of the children, staff and families after another challenging year; although, it is important to reflect and appreciate that we have much to celebrate with our wonderful children, parents and staff.

Class Bubbles

The DfE guidance states that it is no longer necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). Therefore, from the autumn term, assemblies, Masses and other whole school events will no longer be through TEAMS in September. We will no longer need to avoid bubbles mixing at break and lunchtimes, although we will retain some zone areas as we have seen a positive impact on the break time and lunch time behaviour since we introduced the zones on the playground. We are currently devising our 'outbreak management plans' to cover the possibility that it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups. Any decision to the reintroduction of 'bubbles' would not be taken lightly.

Contact-Tracing and Self-Isolation:

As you know from the letter sent home through Parentmail on Friday, Schools only needed to do contact tracing up to and including 18 July. Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.

Control Measures

We will continue to ensure frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and water or hand sanitiser, promoting 'catch it, bin it, kill it', and we will continue to ensure that areas are well-ventilated.

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Staggered drop off and collection times and procedures

The staggered drop off and collection process through the staff car park has worked very well and I am extremely grateful to the Parents, Carers, Staff and children for your patience and understanding to make this system work so efficiently.

We will be amending the system; however, for the beginning of Term 1 we will keep the existing procedures in place for the morning drop off. There will no longer be directed staggered arrival times, all children should arrive between **8:45am to 8:55am**.

At the end of the school day, we will be re-introducing the use of the alley way gate. Parents/carers should enter the school playground via the alley way gate; the gate will be opened at 3:20pm for **3:30pm collection**. The collection time for the new Year R children will be 3:20pm for the first term (until the October break). Parents/carers should stand on the alley way side of the playground (markers to indicate where to stand will be used for the first few days to help you). The children will be led out from their classrooms to their designated line on the playground, where they will be realised one by one by an adult. Once you have collected your child, you will exit the playground via the school staff car park (as you do currently). As with all procedures, we will make changes if necessary, in line with guidance or as deemed operational for the school. We will phase the sole use of the alley way path entrance in due course.



We ask that all adults respect the personal space of others on the school premises, as some individuals may wish to continue to observe social distancing.

PE kit

Children arriving to school wearing their PE kits on PE days is an example of a new system which has worked well across the school. As the children do not need to change before and after their PE lesson, this enables more time 'doing' the physical activity. We have also noticed a welcome decline in the amount of 'lost property' we have in school which is left in cloakrooms etc. Of course, we will monitor and amend if necessary. It is important to remember that it must be **PE kit** and not 'non-uniform' on these days only.

Summer Learning

The DfE has launched an [information site](#) for parents, to support children of all age ranges and abilities catch up on lost learning from the pandemic. The site features advice and support for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as well as programmes, resources and activities for children and young people this summer.

Further information can be found on the [education catch-up for your child](#) homepage.

We would like to encourage all of the children to use our subscriptions to Mathletics, PhonicsPlay and Times Tables Rock Stars in addition to the homework set by their new teachers. Our school website includes our VLE (for revision of past learning) and the Home Learning pencil which contains useful links and resources. It will greatly benefit your child for their transition to their next class if they spend some time over the summer engaging in learning. It would also be wonderful if your child takes part in the Library Summer Reading Challenge. We will be creating a display of all of their reading certificates and summer learning achievements when we return in September.

Breakfast and After School Clubs

Procedures for booking and paying for Breakfast and After School Clubs will continue through Parentmail only. Breakfast Club timings will remain at **7.45am - 8am** arrival only.

The After School Club will be extended to a **6pm** finish. We are no longer asking parents and carers to select their collection slot. From September, when you arrive to the green security gate to collect your child please ring the School mobile 07570 287740 and a member of staff will walk your child out to you from the hall.

We will respond to any further government announcements; if there are updates over the summer that impact on our decisions, we will of course let you know.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our amazing children, staff and families a restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to seeing you all in September for our new academic year.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L. Prestidge
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead