



St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week and enjoyed the sunshine as much as you have been able following the Government guidelines.

Next week is half-term and I wish to remind you all that VLE learning will not be uploaded during the week. We are also closed to our key worker provision as the staff need a well-deserved break to recharge for the final term. Key worker/vulnerable children provision will continue from 1st June - please remember that key worker provision **must be booked in advance** via the office email address: office@staugustine.medway.sch.uk.

The Government will announce whether it is time to begin a wider reopening of schools for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. If they decide that it is safe to proceed, then we will begin to implement our school plan from 1st June.

The DFE have produced guidelines to support the proposed wider opening and it prioritises our youngest children first. It involves extensive changes to the daily routine and operation of the school including the removal of 'class' groups, and children instead being in 'bubbles' of no more than 15; our Risk Assessment has deemed this number to be 10 due to the size of our rooms. Therefore, the children may not necessarily be in their classroom or with their teacher. Our school plan will involve bringing each of the named key years back in phases and assessing each phase before welcoming back the next group of children. As I am sure you can imagine we have been busy preparing the school for the 1st June. The classrooms have desks spaced individually apart from each other; cushions, cuddly toys and some other toys and resources have been removed. Posters and markings are displayed around the school regarding handwashing. Things do look different in school; we are following the Government guidelines.

If the Government confirms the phased reopening of schools for Monday 1st June we would welcome children of Critical Key workers/Vulnerable children and children in Year R only. This provision would run Monday to Friday; closing at 1pm on Friday afternoons (staggered departure) so that the school can have an additional thorough clean on Friday afternoons and teachers can be given time to plan and prepare.



The provision will be in 'bubbles'; we are in the process of trying to arrange the 'bubbles' of 10 from the information you have given us. It is very important that we know your intention as soon as possible as we are in the process of devising these groups which need to stay consistent. We will review this on a weekly basis. Thank you to the Key Worker and Year R families who have already let us know your intentions for week beginning 1st June; if you have not already done so, please email your intention/request to the school office.

Once the return of Year R alongside the Key Worker and Vulnerable children is established, we may begin to welcome back Year 1 and possibly Year 6 in turn if the risk assessment deems this possible. These children will attend all day with staggered start and finish times from Monday to Friday, closing on Friday at 1pm.

As parents and carers I know you are all anxious to know what the 1st June may 'look like' in school for our children. Therefore, the information below is some of the **proposed** plans (if the 1st June goes ahead). As always the safety of our children, families and staff is of paramount importance.

Arrival times for different groups of children	
Sibling groups; families with more than one child in a returning priority group	8:45am
Critical Worker or Vulnerable children in KS2 (Year 3, 4, 5, 6)	9:00am
Critical Worker or Vulnerable children in KS1 (Year 1 and 2)	9:15am
Year R children	9:30am
Departure times for different groups of children	
Year R children	2:45pm
Sibling groups; families with more than one child in a returning priority group	3:00pm
Critical Worker or Vulnerable children in KS1 (Year 1 and 2)	3:15pm
Critical Worker or Vulnerable children in KS2 (Year 3, 4, 5, 6)	3:30pm

- There will be no breakfast club or after school club provision;
- Families must use the main school gate for site access. They should follow the one-way system through the staff car park to drop off and collect their child(ren) in the playground;
- Families must remain 2m away from other families during drop off and collection of children;
- Only one adult per child is permitted on the school grounds for drop off and collection;
- The use of scooters and/or bicycles is not permitted;
- Parents/Carers are NOT permitted to enter the school building.
- Everyone must wash their hands (soap/water or hand sanitiser) on entry to the school;
- Children must bring in their own water bottles;
- Cold packed lunches will be in place of hot food. Children who bring in their own lunch from home must use a disposable lunch bag, which will be thrown away after lunch;
- Children should not bring in a bag or any equipment from home;
- Children should have long lasting sun cream applied in the morning at home;
- Children will be assigned school equipment for their own use.



We have been carrying out an extensive risk assessment for staff and children and, if the decision to welcome more children back goes ahead, we will share further details including our updated Behaviour policy.

As many of the children may have grown out of their school uniform/shoes; they are permitted to wear their own clothes. Children will need to be dressed comfortably and ready for physical activity outside so trainers are suggested.

I understand that the current situation is difficult for many families and I know that many of you have indicated in our questionnaire that you will choose not to send your child back to school on 1st June. This is your choice as a parent and we will support all individual decisions on this matter as each home has a different situation and each child will react very differently to our 'new normal'.

I will write to you again once a final decision is announced by the Government regarding the proposed reopening on 1st June.

I would like to wish you a restful half term break and thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Prestidge
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

