



Nurturing Hearts and Minds

St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School,

Buller Avenue, Penwortham, Preston. PR1 9QQ

Tel 01772 742351

Fax: 01772 750351

Headteacher Mrs D Gallagher

Email bursar@st-marymagdalen.lancs.sch.uk

Website: www.st-marymagdalen.lancs.sch.uk

Thursday 18th June 2020

Dear Parents

Next week we will welcome back children from Year 6, 1 and R. Year 6 will start on Monday, Year 1 on Tuesday and Reception on Wednesday. They will join the 32 key worker children we have already in school. Some of the key worker children will be joining the year group bubbles.

We will have seven bubbles in school so have opted for calling them after the seven colours of the rainbow. A list of who is in which bubble is also attached.

Red - Reception Class Base Year R – Miss McNulty and Mrs Hibbert
Orange -Year 1 Class Base Year R/1 – Mrs Edmondson, Mrs Swanson/Mrs Marshall
Yellow -Year 2 Class Base Year 1 – Mrs Briscoe, Mrs Kennedy/Mrs Williams
Green -Year 6 Class Base Year 6 A – Miss Brooker, Mrs Hogarth/ Mrs Jolley
Blue - Year 5 Class Base Year 5/6 Keyworker – Mr Hughes, Mrs Leung
Indigo -Year 4 Class Base Year 3/4 Keyworker – Mrs Wallace and Mrs Henry
Violet -Year 3 Class Base Year R/1/2/3 Keyworker – Mrs Woosey/Mrs Day and Mrs Pickup/Mrs Di Franco

What time will children arrive?

Children will arrive at school at different times so that we can control the social distancing. Children will enter school through seven different entrances where their temperature will be checked.

To help parents with siblings we are doing this alphabetically by surname:

A-F= 8:45-8.55	G-P= 8.55-9.05am	Q-Z- 9.05-9.15
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Please try to arrive within those ten minute slots.

Pick up times will be

A-F= 3.05pm	G-P= 3.10pm	Q-Z=3.15pm
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Friday pick up (after lunch is eaten)

A-F=12.20pm	G-P= 12.25pm	Q-Z=12.30pm
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Parents will collect and drop off their children in the usual spots but must socially distance if waiting. Only one parent please.

Which door should each bubble enter through?

Green group through the glass link corridor door into the hall

Blue group –through the external door to Year 5 classroom

Indigo – through the external door to Year 4 classroom

Violet – through the external door to Year 3 classroom (through the little courtyard)

Yellow –through the external door to Year 2 classroom (through the little courtyard)

Orange –through the red doors into the cloakroom at the back of school

Red –through the Reception classroom door.

Year R through their usual classroom door and Year 1 through their usual back double doors. So Year 6 children will enter through the little gate near the main entrance.

Which gate do walkers use?

Green, Blue and Indigo group will enter through the pedestrian gate next to the double gate that cars drive through onto the playground. There will be a member of staff there to guide you safely.

Red group will enter through the usual pedestrian gate by the kitchen.

Yellow, Orange and Violet group will enter through the gate from the car park that Reception class parents normally park on.

Where can Reception parents park?

Reception Class parents only can park on the middle of the playground and walk your child to the appropriate gate. However you need to leave space for the drop off circle as children can still be dropped off by the big red shelter. A member of staff there will guide them to the correct entrance. This is to avoid the cross over of bubbles.

How will lunches work?

All Year 6 children and key worker junior children will need to bring a packed lunch. All infant children will have a brown bag. If you do not wish for your infant child to have a brown bag then they will need to bring a packed lunch. Please keep packed lunch boxes clean. Children will eat their lunches in the classroom.

Can my child swap bubbles?

No they can't. As children struggle to social distance we protect them by letting them only mix with children within their bubble.

Do key worker children have to come every day?

No if you are only sending them because you have no choice, then we respect this. We do ask that they do a full school day though.



Do the other children have to come each day?

Yes they do, unless of course they are ill. They are taking a space in a bubble so we expect you to respect this. The seven bubbles that we need to have to accommodate all the children means that other year groups cannot return so it is important to value that space.

Can my child attend before or after school club?

Only key worker children can attend. Please let Becky know in the usual way your needs for the week. Usual charges apply. On Friday afternoons the key worker children will be the only ones in school. As the school is being deep cleaned then we will do our best to keep them outside. If you are not working we would appreciate it if you picked up at lunchtime on Friday to reduce the numbers we have to socially distance in the afternoon.

What should I do with medications and sun cream?

If your child needs to have an inhaler in school please send them in with your child as most have been sent home. These will be kept at your child's work station. Sun cream too will be kept at your child's station.

How do I get messages to school?

We will not be opening the window at the office so please do not think we are being rude when we are communicating through the glass. Please try to avoid using the office as much as possible. If you have a query or need information please send an email or ring. All forms you require are on the school website (if you can't find them, ring up and we will help you.) Fill the forms in electronically and email to school office@st-marymagdalen.lancs.sch.uk

What should my child wear?

Children need to be in clean clothes daily. Trainers and comfy clothes would be best. (No sandals please and no laces unless they can tie them). Children will be outside a great deal as this is the safest place to be so they will need a clean fleece or raincoat. Something easy to wash daily and for the children to get on and off easily when they get too warm/too cold.

What will happen if my child is unwell?

If a child soils themselves at school we will ring you; they will need to be collected, taken home, showered and changed before returning.

What will we do if a child becomes ill?

If your child is unwell they must not attend school. Covid19 has been presenting with many different symptoms apart from the high temperature, breathing problems and persistent cough. We ask that you do not take any chances please. If your child becomes unwell in school they will be taken to a separate room with a member of staff and you will be called to collect. If the symptoms could possibly be Covid staff will be wearing PPE. You must directly arrange for your child to be tested. The pupil will only be allowed back into school once a negative Covid result has been presented at the school office. When a child is sent home the parents of all the children in the bubble will be sent a text. Parents can decide to take their child home. If parents wish to collect their child they will need to ring the office



(742351) so that they can be directed to where to collect your child. If the ill child tests positive for Covid (tests are pretty quick now) the whole bubble (including staff) will have to isolate for 14 days.

Can my child bring a snack?

Yes please. The fruit scheme is not operating so children may bring a healthy snack in their lunch box. (No chocolate please).

Should my child bring a water bottle?

Yes please. All water bottles will need to come to school full. We have no water fountains in use at the moment so an additional drink in their lunchbox would probably be advisable. Staff will refill water bottles.

What will happen if my child is upset?

When a child is upset or hurt a hug would usually really help. We will reassure the child as much as we can and let them know that we care but will not be able to hug them. We will explain this to them.

Why are some Year 6 children with key worker Year 5 children?

All the Year 6 children in this bubble are key worker children and have established friendship within this group over the last three months. There are too many year 6 children for one bubble so this is the most sensible solution. We will ensure that all Year 6 are involved in any transition activity which will need to take place outside anyway.

Will the children be social distancing?

We will be encouraging the children to socially distance as much as possible. Children will stay in their own group bubbles and will not mix with the children from other bubbles. There are posters and markers around school to help them. On the playground they will have a designated area to play and work in and playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered as much as possible. The important thing is that staff socially distance themselves from the children as Covid presents a much greater risk to them than it does the children.

What will we be doing in school?

The children at school will be working roughly on the same things as those at home. They will not have as much access to technology as this is limited and has to be shared in school and it will need wiping down after every use. Teachers will be limited by social distancing so correcting pencil grips and hearing children read one to one is practically impossible so please continue to do these things at home when you can. We will endeavour to make our learning as fun as possible. Our focus will be on ensuring our children are safe and happy and we are fully expecting to deal with a full range of emotions next week from excitement, to anxiousness, to fear. We anticipate that it will be along time before school operates as it once did.

How can parents help?



Parents can help by being understanding of what staff are doing here. They will be teaching their bubble, managing home learning for those at home as well as juggling their own families and their children's home learning. Many of you will be appreciate now how hard it is to juggle working with home learning but this is just another level. I hope you appreciate the staff as much the Governing Body and I do.

The second thing is to be sensitive and understanding to the parents who have chosen to keep their children at home and to the parents whose children have not had the opportunity to come back. I am just thinking about taking care about what you write on social media. It probably feels very unfair that some children who are desperate to come back cannot return because they are not in the chosen year groups but these are the year groups we have been directed to prioritise. I am sure no one would upset people intentionally but I thought it worth saying, just in case.

We look forward to seeing you next week. I will be working every day for the foreseeable.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs D Gallagher
Headteacher

Jesus let your light shine through, in all we think, and say, and do. Amen



CPD MARK
ASSOCIATE FACILITATOR

