



Thursday 16th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: September Re-opening of St Barnabas Primary School

We hope you, your families and friends are all safe and well. It has been lovely to hear children's voices in and around school again and we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back in September. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and patience whilst waiting for us to communicate our plans for September opening.

We will be offering full time schooling for every pupil in September.

There has been a lot of guidance to read and digest and many considerations to make in order to welcome all of the children back in September. As school leaders, alongside our governing body, we have now had time to review the Government guidance (2nd July update) in respect of the September re-opening of schools. We have liaised with the Local Authority and reviewed their guidance, as well as speaking with other local schools. This information has been used to inform our risk assessment for what feels as safe as possible at St Barnabas.

We appreciate and understand that returning to school may cause some anxiety for our children and families. When planning our curriculum for September we have focussed on a balanced approach of the core subjects and also the social, emotional and mental health of the children. By planning an exciting whole school project we hope to reengage everyone with exciting new learning. Routines and expectations will be re-established and everyone will be greeted with a big smile and a warm welcome back.

We are aware that there is a lot of information in this guide. This guide sets out our plans for the September re-opening. The Local Authority have produced a "FAQs for Parents and Carers" this has been attached and can be found on the St Barnabas school website. There will be further updates during the summer which could affect our ability to deliver this plan and there may be delays or disruption due to things beyond our control. We will strive to keep you updated with any changes as soon as possible. At all times, we will be making decisions based on the safety of your children and families, and our staff .

Assuring you of our best at all times,

Mrs Serle
Miss Sheppard

Section 1 – When and how will school re-opens

In the new guidance from DfE and our local authority, the bubble/pod approach has now been widened to allow larger groups of pupils to be in a bubble/pod. This is to allow for track, trace and test to be implemented if there was an outbreak of COVID at our setting.

Our approach will be to bubble/pod whole year groups in order to know who has been exposed to whom. Pupils will be taught in their classes with a maximum of 30 pupils per class. To comply with government guidance on track, trace and test the classes will not be able to mix.

As you will all understand and appreciate the re-opening of school in September needs to be well planned and comply with government and local authority guidance in order to keep everyone safe and comfortable.

The following plan will be in place (subject to any further guidance)

- Thursday 3rd September KS2 pupils (Y3,4,5,6) return to school.
- Friday 4th September KS1 (Y1,2) and KS2 pupils return to school
- Monday 7th September **ALL** pupils in school.
- Monday 7th September YR will begin a phased transition.

The staggered start is to enable to staff to fully support all children to return safely and confidently.

Section 2 – an overview of the safety measures

All of the measures put in place in June to reduce the possibility of the virus spreading within the school environment will continue (see previous guidance from June 2020)

In addition the following measures will be in place:

- They will have their teacher and TA in their class and other adults will be kept to a minimum e.g. for PPA time and sports coaches.
- Pupils will continue to have designated play spaces and staggered play and lunchtimes to minimise contact.
- Pupils will come to school wearing PE kit on the days they are taught PE (information on days to follow on Class dojo from teachers)
- ABM catering will resume hot lunches which will largely be eaten in classrooms for older children and only younger children (YR, Y1) will eat in the hall. The normal booking system will resume.
- Resources from home should be kept to a minimum. Reading books will be issued during the week and quarantined for 4 days on return.
- Regular cleaning will continue during the day and thorough cleaning every evening.
- Staff will review a risk assessment weekly with support from regular Local Authority guidance.

Section 3 – a guide for families using the school site

Arrangements for families entering and exiting the school site

The same arrangements as in June will be in place to enable good 'social distancing' habits between parents entering the school site.

1. The main gates and side school gate will be open. However, each entry is designated for specific classes.
2. There will be no 'drop off' facility on site for families coming by car and we encourage families to walk to school.
3. Once on site, families will be required to observe strict social distancing measures, remaining at least 2 metres apart from other families at all times.

Staggered start and finish times for children

To limit the number of adults and children arriving on site at the same time, we will be running staggered start and finish times for those year groups returning to school as well as having identified gate entry points.

	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Gate entry/exit	Back gate Walk round to Rec gate Collected here at end of day	Main gate – diagonal path straight into class Collected from KS2 playground	Main gate – straight path Line up in playground Collected from KS2 playground	Back gate Straight in through end of Y3/4 corridor Collected from KS1 playground	Back gate Straight in through end of Y3/4 corridor Collected from KS1 playground	Main gate – straight path Straight in via slope Collected from KS2 playground	Main gate – straight path Straight in via slope Collected from KS2 playground
Start	8.45am	8.45am	8.50am	8.55am	8.50am	8.45am	8.50am
Finish	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.20pm	3.25pm	3.20pm	3.15pm	3.20pm

1. Only one parent per family may enter the school site.
2. Children must be **kept by your side at all times** whilst on site (regardless of their age). Strictly no playing or socialising with other children.
3. Once your child has been dropped off or collected, you will be required to exit the site quickly and safely following the system described above. **Please do not stay on site to 'catch up' with other families or to use the outdoor equipment.**
4. We ask that you **do not try to talk with the class teachers at the start/end of the school day** and that you instead message them via Dojo – this is both to ensure that people are not waiting in queues and to ensure that our staff have limited interactions with the wider public.

Section 4 – other questions you may have

Does my child need to attend every day?

Yes, attendance is expected from 7th September.

What will learning look like at school?

The return of a regular timetable will be in place for September with children being taught core subjects and a broad and balanced curriculum offer.

What will happen at lunchtime?

- The kitchen will be providing a **full menu** of food. Children in Key Stage 2 will have their lunch in their classrooms. Children in Key Stage 1 will eat in the dining hall – this will happen in shifts, where tables will be cleaned in between service.
- Each year group has a designated play space in order to reduce the interaction between groups.
- Each year will be assigned staff to work with them during lunch time.
- **Use Parent Pay** to book lunches. This service will be back to normal.
- You may provide a packed lunch for your child, if you wish to.

Will Breakfast Club be available?

- Breakfast Club will be operating as normal and you can pay through School Money, as usual.

- Breakfast Club will group the children into three parts Early Years, Key Stage one and Key Stage two so we can track and trace if necessary.

Will The Zone be re-opening?

We work closely with The Zone, and this service will be available as soon as possible. For more information or to book a place at The Zone please email office@thezone1.co.uk

Does my child need to wear school uniform?

YES. Your child will need to attend in their school uniform. To avoid some of the issues relating to changing for PE, we ask that they wear clothing suitable for outdoor PE and forest school on the designated days.

What does my child need to bring with them?

Your child should bring the necessities with them in one bag which can be closed. They do not need their own equipment – individual equipment will be provided by the school and kept in school. They must bring their own water bottles clearly labelled with their name.

The school office will be closed to foot traffic

Whilst we appreciate communication is vital and important to our joint working we have decided to reduce contact the school office would prefer all communications with be via phone or email.

office@stbarnabasprimaryschool.co.uk or 01454862233

Where can I find further guidance?

The DfE has produced the following guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

