

07/09/2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

A warm welcome back to life at primary school and our 'new normal'. We are so proud of both our new and returning children, they have quickly adapted to new routines and ways of working and are very keen to learn. It is wonderful to have the academy full of children again and to meet so many of you who have been dropping off on Station Road. I hope to come up to Salisbury Road later this week to meet parents dropping off children there.

Thank you to all our families for your patience and understanding during the first two days as we tried out and refined procedures for drop off and collection. If we all work together, the procedures will ensure that everyone stays safe and well.

To enable safe and speedy drop off and collections:

- Only arrive during your allocated time slot
- Ensure that you follow social distancing whilst waiting
- Remind children coming to school independently the importance of social distancing and remaining in their class bubbles
- Arrive during your family's oldest child time slot in the morning and youngest child's slot in the afternoon (younger children will wait in the sibling area)
- If needed, drop your junior child off to wait in a holding zone to enable you to get to the infants
- If your time slot is nearing its end and you are queuing behind the next year group, please come to the front of the line
- Do not block the pavement and please do not wait on Joyce's Clocks' drive for health and safety reasons

Children in the sibling holding area will stand 2 metres apart from other year groups. Children in class bubbles can mix and do not need to socially distance.

Sadly, we cannot guarantee fine weather and drop off and collection will be challenging in the rain. An umbrella and raincoat will make waiting outside more comfortable for everyone and makes sure that children do not start the day wet and soggy.

If your child is late and the gates are still open, please send them in through their allocated gate and an adult will take them to class. If your child is late and the gates have closed, please bring your child to Salisbury Road and ring the school. An adult will come out to collect your child. Currently we are unable to welcome parents inside the school building.

Please do not forget water bottles, which will be kept on your child's table in class for use during the day. As part of our COVID-19 risk assessment, school lunches are



Learning as we grow. Growing as we learn. Rooted in Jesus

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served in class, with choices made at morning register. If you wish to support your child with their menu choice, please send a note with your child on Monday morning. Lunch menus can be found on the federation website and were emailed to families in July. We are working closely with Chartwells, our new catering suppliers to ensure that menus meet the needs of our children whilst adhering to nutritional standards.

In the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 in school, we will follow the advice of Public Health England and keep parents fully informed. Home learning will be provided immediately for those children who are required to isolate. If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, they will need to isolate for 10 days – please note the change from 7 days.

Staff will be wearing masks around school, but will not wear them when teaching. They may wear visors, especially if their role requires them to spend time within 2 metres of children.

We appreciate that sharing information with class teachers is difficult when dropping off at the school gate. Therefore, the home learning email ([homelearning@whitchurch-jun.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@whitchurch-jun.shropshire.sch.uk)) continues to be monitored and can be used to communicate with class teachers. **Please note that it will be checked at the start and end of the school day only.** For more urgent queries or messages please phone or email the academy office.

Thank you for completing the return to school questionnaire, staff have used the information provided to plan appropriate support for individuals. Teachers have planned a recovery curriculum which is supportive of children's mental health and emotional wellbeing. There is time to talk and to explore issues every day in addition to planned PSHE lessons. Adults will also be reminding children how to keep safe including how to wash hands correctly and manage coughs and colds using the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.

Teachers will also be assessing children to identify any gaps in learning and then plan high quality teaching input and intervention as required. This will ensure that all children have the necessary skills, concepts and knowledge to move onto the next stage of learning.

The government has updated the guide to returning to school for parents and carers, this can be found on the federation website, along with many resources to support the transition back to school life.

Yours sincerely

Ms Sarah Walsh  
Head of School



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