



THE GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
The Catholic Diocese of Northampton
“Following Jesus, The Good Shepherd, in all we say and do”

Wednesday, 15 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

September Openings: Thursday 3rd September and Friday 4th September 2020

You will have heard the government announcement that schools will be open for all pupils' full-time education from September 2020. Our school has been welcoming pupils in different year groups back to school since June. We approached this with great caution, reviewing all the scientific advice to ensure that we could be as safe as possible. This has gone extremely well, as our safety measures and risk assessments were excellent. Thank you to all those parents who sent your children back into school as requested – it has been lovely to see them.

We are delighted that we can now look forward to seeing all our pupils back in September. We will be very busy in the next couple of weeks planning, completing new and detailed risk assessments, and working out exactly what school will look and feel like when your child returns.

The Government has stated: *‘Given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19)’.*

We're working hard to consider how we group pupils together, ensuring that we reduce contact between different groups of pupils, and keeping the stringent cleaning and disinfecting processes we already have in place to ensure that our school is as safe as can be for your child.

Please keep an eye on our school Twitter/Facebook and email communications over the summer months for further updates and information you may need to be aware of to ensure that your child is safe. Please be aware some details may change; we will keep you updated via the school website.

1. You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school. Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately. If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you MUST inform the school.



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Academies Trust Ltd

A private limited company with charitable status registered in England & Wales

Registered Office: Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Academies Trust, c/o St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School, Tyne Crescent, Bedford, MK41 7UL **Company Number:** [09436283](https://www.gov.uk/company-information/check-by-number/09436283)

2. The government has advised walking or cycling to school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport.

3. Attendance at school will be compulsory for the vast majority of children. The government has relaxed the rules on attendance during lockdown. However, this will change in September. The government guidance says: *'Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term.'*

4. Pupils and staff will not be wearing face coverings in school. The government advice is quite clear that this is not necessary. If face coverings are used on public transport to get to school, they must be removed and safely disposed of or stored before entry to the building.

5. Your child will be expected to follow strict behaviour rules relating to physical contact with other pupils, and keeping their hands clean. Pupils will be expected to wash their hands regularly, and/or use hand sanitiser.

6. If your child has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), Mrs Green will contact you to explain what provision will look like from September.

7. Our school kitchen will reopen in September and lunches will be available again. Pupils eligible for free school meals will return to having their lunch at school and will no longer receive lunch vouchers. Free School Meal vouchers for the last week of this term have now been ordered, as have separate vouchers for the Summer holidays. Lunches should be ordered via School Gateway, as before lockdown.

8. In order to maintain social distancing during social times, the playground and field will be zoned. It will be really important that your child stays within the area that they are told to.

9. It will be more important than ever that your child has their own equipment in school, to ensure that this does not need to be shared. Each child will be provided with a set of equipment; please do not send pencil cases into school.

10. Pupils will be expected to wear school uniform. New school uniform is available from the Schoolwear shop [HERE](#). The old uniform will be phased out during this academic year and we will have moved to the new uniform in September 2021.

There will be staggered starts and endings to the school day. The playground gates will open at 8.45 am. Please use the playground and the car park space to help maintain social distancing. We understand that some of you and your children will be anxious about returning in September, after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking exceptional measures to make our schools as safe as can be.

We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for all pupils, and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. Although many of our pupils have worked hard using remote learning resources provided by our dedicated teachers, we are fully aware that learning has been lost. We are all determined that your sons and daughters will absolutely not be 'a lost generation' and we're adapting our curriculum to make sure that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future. Your children deserve a great and safe education – we will not let them down.



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As always, we continue to monitor the national picture and therefore the following plan is subject to change. Thank you for your understanding.

School Timings:

The playground gates will open at 8.45am each day. Please use the playground and the car park space to help maintain social distancing and observe our “one-way system’ policy – entering through the gate onto the playground and exiting via the car park.

Year group	Entrance Timeslot	Exit Timeslot
Reception*, Year 1, Year 5, Year 6	8.45am	3.00pm
Year 2, Year 3, Year 4	9.00am	3.15pm

Nursery will enter through the car park gates via the yellow spots on the ground to nursery entrance.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 should enter school through the car park and then use the small gate in the car park to access the KS1 playground. Mrs Robinson will be standing on Telly Tubby Hill to direct you. Exit through the large car park gates.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 should enter the school via the main pedestrian gate and turn right through the playground continuing all the way round to the other side of the building and exit the double gates to car park. Children will enter their classrooms via the external doors where teachers will be waiting.

Staff will be on hand to direct you and welcome you back.

Anyone who does not arrive on time will need to be dropped off at 9:15am via the main office. We respectfully ask that everyone makes every effort to arrive, and collect children, during their time-slots.

Staffing:

Year group	Saint Name	Teacher	Additional Support	Classroom	Miss Green will be supporting all SEN children in school from St Therese/Rainbow Room
Nursery	Saint Joseph	Mrs Ashby/Mrs Broughton	Mrs Hancy	Nursery classrooms. Enter via the main Nursery entrance.	
Reception	Saint Nicholas	Mrs Bonner/Mrs Tack/Mrs Clarke	Miss Boshell/Mrs Hancy/ Mrs Mundy	Enter Via Mrs Bonner’s external classroom door	
Year R/1	Saint Anthony	Mrs Miller		Enter Mrs Miller’s External Classroom door	
Year 1	Saint Lucy	Mrs Coe/Mrs Bowen		Enter Via cloakroom door in reception	
Year 2	Saint Clare/Saint Patrick	Mrs O’Key/Mrs Berrill	Mrs McDonald/Mrs Barteczko	Enter Via external Year 2 classroom doors.	



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Year 3	Saint Cecilia	Mrs Nash/Mrs Bowen	Mrs Rathbone	Enter Mrs Nash/Mrs Bowen's External classroom door (Miss Baggott's old classroom)	Miss Green will be supporting all SEN children in school from St Therese/The Rainbow Room
Year 3/4	Saint David	Mrs Kelly/Mrs Maddison		Enter Mrs Kelly/Mrs Maddison's external classroom door	
Year 4	Saint Peter	Miss Smith		Enter Miss Smith's external classroom Door	
Year 5	Saint Christopher	Mrs Rainbow	Mrs Smith	Enter Mrs Rainbow's external classroom door	
Year 5	Saint Anne	Mrs Hover		Enter Mrs Rainbow's external classroom door (Miss Green's old classroom)	
Year 6	Saint Michael	Mrs Richards/Mrs Maule		Enter Mrs Richard's external classroom door	
Year 6	Saint Paul	Mrs Stafford Jones		Enter Mrs Stafford-Jones' external classroom door	

End of Year reports, which have been written to reflect your child's progress up to the start of lockdown, will be hand delivered or posted to you, on Friday 17th July 2020.

See you in September!
God bless,

Mrs C Dodds
Head Teacher



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