



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Grange Road, Northampton NN3 2AX

Tel: 01604 403511/409582

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Kirstie Yuen

www.stgregoryscatholicprimaryschool.org.uk

Friday, 22 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you are all well and keeping safe. We wanted to write to you to address some questions we have received and to give you some more information on the possible reopening of school in the week commencing 1st June.

On Friday 28th May, we will receive more information from the Government, who will confirm whether UK schools will reopen to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. If the Government confirm that this will be happening, the children will start back at school on 3rd June. This is to allow 1st and 2nd June as staff training days. It is vital that staff are allowed time to be fully trained and to ensure that all points on our risk assessment are in place before the children return. Our main priority is ensuring that school is ready and safe for the children and staff.

Foundation Stage:

- Children in Foundation Stage will begin school at 9:15am and finish school at 2:15pm. Staggered start and finish times have been applied across the school, to limit the number of adults and children entering and leaving school at the same time.
- Children should be dropped off in the car in the layby outside the Foundation Stage classroom. We ask that parents do not get out of the car so that we can minimise gatherings of adults. Mrs Beckett and Mrs Palmer will be waiting for the children so that they can guide them into the classroom. If parents walk into school, we ask that you walk into school with your child and then leave them with Mrs Beckett and Mrs Palmer outside the classroom. You will not be able to come inside the classroom.
- Foundation Stage will be in a group of a maximum of 15 children in the Foundation Stage classrooms. We are aiming to make the groups smaller where possible, but this does depend on staffing and how many children chose to come back to school. The children will remain in their group for the day and will not mix with other groups within the school, to adhere to social distancing as much as possible.



Part of the St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Academies Trust

Company Number: 09980467

Registered Office: STCCAT Office, c/o Thomas Becket Catholic School, Becket Way, Kettering Road North, Northampton NN3 6HT



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- Lunchtime will be from 11-12. Children will eat their lunch in the classroom and then go into the outside area to play. Please ensure that packed lunch is provided in a disposable carrier bag and that all items in the packed lunch are disposable, similar to when we go on school trips. This is to ensure that items from home are not brought in and to limit cross-contamination. We will provide drinks for the children so that water bottles do not need to be brought in. We will also provide a snack at break time for the children as we normally do. Please be assured we will be wearing gloves and following food hygiene rules as normal when preparing snack.
- Staffing will be different because we have staff who are shielding. Therefore, we have used staff across the school to ensure that smaller groups can be maintained. This means your child may not have their usual teacher, but we have tried to ensure that familiar adults are in their group.
- Children will have daily lessons such as Phonics and Maths. Independent learning will look different; the children will have their own box of toys which will be changed daily, so that we can clean the toys at the end of the day. We feel it is important that they still have time to play but it will look different to our usual tables which are normally laid out with different activities.
- The children will use the Foundation Stage classroom toilets. They will be free to go to the toilet when they wish but one at a time. We ask that a spare change of uniform including underwear is brought into school and left on their peg in case of accidents please.
- Please ensure children do not bring book bags or toys from home. We have removed various resources from the classroom to ensure that cross-contamination is limited as much as possible, so we are limiting what the children bring into the classroom too.
- Staff will not be wearing PPE all the time but they will be required to at times; for example, if your child has an accident or needs first aid. This will be explained to them beforehand.
- Children will be using hand sanitizer and washing hands regularly whilst at school. We will be wiping down tables at break and lunchtimes, and after school a thorough clean of the classroom and resources will take place.
- If your child has any symptoms such as a high temperature, cough or cold, you will be asked to pick them up immediately. We encourage you to take their temperature daily so that you know they are fit and well to come into school.



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We also have an infra-red thermometer so we hope to be able to carry out temperature checks on arrival, which we do hope gives you some reassurance.

It is important to note that children in Foundation Stage will find it difficult to socially distance. Whilst we will encourage social distancing where possible, but realistically it is not going to be possible all the time, particularly at lunch and break times. This is a strange time for everyone and school will look different to the children. Whilst we want the children to feel a sense of normality, this means we cannot guarantee that children will be 2m apart at all times.

Thank you to those who have replied to the school office to say if their child is returning or not. Those who have replied stating that their child will be returning have been allocated to a group. Please note that if you have not replied, you must not turn up on 3rd June without letting us know, as all groups have been carefully planned to allow for as few children in groups as possible to socially distance as much as possible. We are setting a deadline of **Monday 25th May** to e-mail the school office with your child's name and year group if you wish for them to return to school on 3rd June. If you do not let us know by then, your child will not be able to attend for that week.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to e-mail the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Amy Lucy

Assistant Head teacher