



ST MARY'S Catholic Primary School

Melbourn Road, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 7DB Tel: (01763) 246021

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday night, it has been confirmed that all children will return to school on Monday March 8th. We are delighted to be able to welcome everyone back, but safety as always is paramount.

In order to continue to keep our school COVID secure we will return as in September with the following safety controls.

- Staggered drop off and collection from allocated gates (details attached)
- Initially our wrap around care will remain closed. We intend to resume wrap around care after Easter. This will provide a further 5 weeks for community transmission rates to reduce. It will then be possible to safely mix 2 bubbles indoors, which is required to safely operate wrap around care.
- School will continue to close at 1pm on Fridays. Care will be provided for key worker and vulnerable children if absolutely essential for work purposes, please contact the school office to book as usual. Early closure ensure deep cleaning of resources (as per our latest risk assessment on our website). It additionally provides crucial time for staff to meet, to plan, prepare, monitor and adapt the Curriculum to meet the children's learning and emotional needs. Lunchtimes are shortened to ensure directed teaching time is not reduced.
- All other routines will resume as per our operating in September. Children will remain in their class bubbles throughout the day including lunch and playtime. They will be taught by their class teacher and the teaching assistants will remain consistent across the week, reducing transmission. Handwashing and cleaning will be an ongoing priority.

We will welcome our children back to familiar surroundings, people, and routines to make their transition back into full time face-to-face learning as smooth and enjoyable as possible.





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Please remember children should not bring anything with them except for plastic lunchbox, a water bottle and coat. Reading books will be changed weekly, class teachers will give more information about this.

Please ensure you are punctual for drop off and collection if there are any concerns please contact the school office.

School is mandatory for all from the 8th of March, any absences should be notified in the same way to the school office.

All staff are now administering COVID test twice weekly.

The school remains closed to visitors, including the school office (all contact should be via phone or email) unless you have an appointment booked.

Children or family members with COVID symptoms should not attend school and should arrange for a test as soon as possible. Please notify the school of a positive test to enable us to liaise with PHE test and trace and take appropriate action (see attached NHS leaflet).

We are looking forward to welcoming all of the children back. Please be assured all staff will be easing children back into school life and our Curriculum gently. Our children are wonderful, resilient and I know they are excited to return to see their friends.

Thank you for the amazing work you have done to support your children's learning during lockdown.

We also really appreciate your prayers; kind wishes and support that have kept us going this term.

God Bless

Mrs Julia Pearce

