



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mill Street, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 2TH

Telephone: 01384 818435

Website: www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk



Archdiocese of Birmingham

Principal: Ms O. O'Beirne

Wednesday 15th July 2020

Updated August 2020

Full Opening from September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted that we will be welcoming back all St. Mary's children in September for the new academic year. I would like to thank all members of our community: staff, parents and carers, pupils, Academy Committee and Board of Directors for all their hard work and dedication through these unprecedented times. It is disappointing that we were not able to say goodbye to Year 6 in the way we normally would have, but I wish them every success in their future and look forward to seeing them pop back and see us, when things return to normal.

You have received via School Life email, and also published on our school website, a letter from Mrs Horan on behalf of the Board of Directors with information for the full opening of school from September. This letter is detail specific information for St. Mary's.

Bubbles, arrival and dismissal

- Pupil's bubbles will now be in the form of usual, full year group classes
- Please where possible can you remind your child/children of their classroom fire door

Arrival/dismissal times and entrances are as follows:

Pre-school & Reception	8:40 – 9:00 14:45 – 15:00	Pre-school gate. Please see virtual tour in the COVID-19 tab on our website (now available)
Y2,Y5&Y6	8:35 - 8:45 14:45 – 14:55	Follow the one way system and marking onto school playground. Children enter the school building via own classroom fire door.
Y1,Y3&Y4	8:45 - 8:55 14:55 – 15:05	Follow the one way system and marking onto school playground. Children enter the school building via own classroom fire door.

- **In cases where parents have children across several bubbles, please use the earliest arrival and latest dismissal times**

The following arrangements for arrival and dismissal remain in place:

- No cars will be able to access the school site
- There will be a strict one way system in place for dismissal and arrival times (detailed in the current video on the school website). We ask that you adhere to the signage and markings to maintain social distancing
- Only **one** parent should accompany their child/children onto the school site during arrival and dismissal times
- Parents must **immediately vacate** the premises as soon as children have entered through the playground barrier and we ask parents and carers do not congregate at the school gates
- Dismissal times and procedures will work similarly to those at the beginning of the day. However, children will remain seated within their classrooms until you arrive, when they will be called by their teacher and walk out to greet you at the playground barrier
- Anyone arriving after the time above will need to go to the main entrance of the school
- If you arrive outside these times please use the pedestrian walk way

Communication with School

- If parents/carers need to speak to school or a member of staff, please call the school office to arrange a phone appointment
- The “Contact School” section of the COVID-19 tab on the school website will remain active. Parents/carers can also email admin@st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk with queries.
- Instead of the normal first aid slips, all first aid communication will **only** be made via the School Life app messages
- **As we are relying heavily on communication with parents outside face-to-face meetings, please contact us immediately if you think your details with us might be out of date. The most efficient way to do this is via the admin email address or the “contact school” section of the website**

What to bring to school

- Full bottle of water
- A packed lunch if not booking a school dinner
- Children will be encouraged to bring their own packet of tissues with them in order to follow the Catch it, Kill it, Bin it guidance- lidded pedal bins will be available in each classroom
- Coat or sun cream/sun hat depending on the weather
- All children should wear full school uniform
- **On the days children have P.E. lessons, children will need to come into school in their P.E. kits (tracksuits on colder days)**
- KS1 are invited to bring a healthy snack for their afternoon break
- **Please do not bring any school bags into school (only a lunch bag)**

Food provided at school

- Break time snacks such as toast and pancakes will not be available currently. Parents/carers will be able to order alternative break time snacks from Parent Pay as usual
- From Monday 7th September, dinner options will include a grab bag (cheese and ham sandwich, fruit, cake and a drink) and a box meal on Wednesdays and Fridays (wrap meal or pizza and chips)
- Dinners must be ordered via Parent Pay as usual

What will children be learning

- Wellbeing is paramount and therefore there will be a focus on wellbeing, circle time and DPA music activities
- Children’s learning will also focus on key maths and English skills
- This will be reviewed at half term.



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Educational Visits

- At present, there are no educational visits planned before half term. This will continue to be reviewed.

After School Clubs

- Pure Sport will be running their before and after school clubs from September 7th details to follow
- At this time, **Brierley Hill will not be offering wrap-around care for St. Mary's pupils**

Clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable individuals

- Please inform school if your child is not to attend school, on advice from a medical practitioner

New visual information for what school will look like for children has been uploaded to the school website (under the COVID-19 tab). Please familiarise yourself with all the virtual tours on the website as they are still relevant

As guidance is ever changing, our plans are constantly under review. Please keep checking our school website for updated information.

Please stay safe and look after yourselves and your families. I wish you a wonderful summer and all the staff look forward to welcoming your children back to St Mary's in September.

Yours sincerely,

Ms O O'Beirne
Principal