



St. Michael's R.C. Primary School

Clumber Street North, Elswick, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7RE

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www.st-michaels.school

Headteacher: Mrs C Chapman

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your family are safe and well.

I am writing to inform you of our progress towards a full reopening of school in September. We have a robust plan in place for the return of **all pupils** in September.

St Michael's updated risk assessment is now available on our school website.

It would be at this time, during a 'normal' year, where we would be having our end of year celebrations. As we are unable to have our typical 'move up day', your child will have received a letter from their new teacher in their report pack.

Nursery and Reception pupils are receiving a transition pack with specific information regarding their transition arrangements.

Important dates for September:

Monday 7 th September 2020	Staff Training Day- school is closed to pupils
Tuesday 8 th September 2020	Year 1-Year 6 to return to school Nursery/ Reception 'Stay and Play' morning
Wednesday 9 th September 2020	All pupils attending school

In September, protective measures will continue to ensure the safety of pupils and staff. The guidance for primary schools is very much based on the assumption that by September, the number of people with the virus in the community will be very low, therefore the chance of anyone in school having the virus is also very low. The overriding principle is to minimise the number and length of contact between people, rather than eliminating them. St Michael's will operate at full capacity and with as normal a curriculum and timetable as possible. At St Michael's, we will be creating year group bubbles who will work in an allocated zone within school. We will have more members of staff for each zone at lunchtime, to support practical arrangements e.g. safe toileting and to facilitate first aid.

The guidance states that, while it is important that classes work in bubbles, staff can move between bubbles for a limited number of activities. It is recommended that children limit what they bring into school to essential items only. Pupils can take books and work home so we will be sending reading books and homework home every week.

Within bubbles the emphasis will be on hygiene rather than formal social distancing. Year group bubbles will be kept apart during the school day. Children will sit side by side and facing forward, rather than in groups. The usual rules for attendance will again apply.

Parents will not be allowed to enter the school site and we ask that all parents adhere to the staggered start and finish times outlined in the tables below. In September, there will be no breakfast club or after school clubs. This will be reviewed in the autumn term.

Our high standards and expectations for behaviour and work will remain, and all children are asked to wear clean school uniforms each day.



Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will have a packed lunch provided for them as part of the universal free school meal offer. Children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 who are eligible for free school meals will also have a packed lunch provided by school. All other pupils should bring a healthy packed lunch to school every day. Please see the packed lunch policy on our school website.

We will limit all visitors to school to essential services only and appropriate risk assessments and strict hand hygiene will be adhered to.

If you have more than one child, you should drop all your children off and pick them up at the time of your eldest child, using your eldest child's allocated gate. This should avoid too many parents congregating outside of school at any one point. Please be mindful of other parents when you are dropping off and collecting from school.

Please reads the arrangements below for your child's year group.

Nursery	
Start date	Stay and Play- Tuesday 8 th September 2020 First day- Wednesday 9 th September 2020
Start time	9.30
Finish time	2.30
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 3

Reception	
Start date	Stay and Play- Tuesday 8 th September 2020 First day- Wednesday 9 th September 2020
Start time	9.15
Finish time	2.45
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 3

Year 1	
Start date	Tuesday 8 th September 2020
Start time	9.00
Finish time	3.00
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 3

Year 2	
Start date	Tuesday 8 th September 2020
Start time	8.45
Finish time	3.15
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 3

Year 3	
Start date	Tuesday 8 th September 2020
Start time	9.00
Finish time	3.00
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 4

Year 4	
Start date	Tuesday 8 th September 2020
Start time	8.45
Finish time	3.15
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 4

Year 5	
Start date	Tuesday 8 th September 2020
Start time	9.00
Finish time	3.00
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 2

Year 6	
Start date	Tuesday 8 th September 2020
Start time	8.45
Finish time	3.15
Entry/ Exit information	Gate 2

Please note that full school uniform is expected in September, this includes black school shoes. School uniform can be ordered online at <https://theschooloutfit.co.uk/collections/st-michaels-r-c-primary-school-newcastle> or by calling 0191 4194616. The deadline for ordering uniform is 1st August 2020.

Our school office is open until Thursday July 16th during school hours. You can contact school on 0191 273 9383 if you have any questions about any of the arrangements outlined in this letter.

We will ensure your child is as active and happy as possible when they return to school, whilst following government guidelines. There will be a much greater emphasis on good hygiene, however we will also ensure your child has access to a vibrant and exciting curriculum, where their mental health and wellbeing is priority.

Our whole school community will be together again as one very soon. I look forward to that day.

Yours Sincerely



Mrs C Chapman
Headteacher