



St. Helen's Primary School & Cygnets Flying Start
 Vincent Street, Sandfields.
 Swansea SA1 3TY

Headteacher: Mr. M.S. Thompson, B.A. Ed.(Hons), NPQH
 Deputy Headteacher : Mrs. N. Fredrickson B.A.Ed.(Hons), NPQH

Flying Start Childcare Manager: Mrs.A.Cable

☎: (01792) 655763

☎: (01792) 470019

e-mail : St.Helens.Primary@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

www.sthelensprimary.uk.org

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17th July 2020

Dear parent/carer,

September!

You may have seen many messages on TV about the return to school in September and it is very easy to get confused as things change daily! **We will return on Wednesday 2nd September** and it is extremely important that you return on this date. If you are unable to return on this date, it is essential you let us know or your place may be offered to another child. The return to school is dependent on there not being another spike in Covid19 infections during the Summer holidays. There also may be other changes from the Government over the next 6 weeks which again may alter the way school looks in September. Many of you will feel anxious about your children coming back and this is only natural. Please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns.

It is important to remember that although all pupils are returning to school, this will not be school as we knew it before the Covid19 pandemic. There are numerous things we have to do to keep your children, you and ourselves safe. This will mean that some things we have done in the past cannot now take place or may have to be done differently. This means that Breakfast Club, coming into and going out from school, communication with teachers, use of the office, lunches and lessons have to be done differently to keep everyone safe. The main change is that pupils will only mix with the children in their own class where possible and not with children in other classes. This letter aims to explain those changes to you. I'm sorry that it is a long letter, but there are many changes!

Please rest assured we will do everything as a school to settle your children back into school after such a long time away. We will work tirelessly to keep your children safe, ensure they catch up and get back to enjoying their learning.



In September your child's class teacher will be:

Class	Teacher
Nursery	Mrs. Cerasuolo
Reception	Mrs. Jeffery
Year 1	Mrs. Hodder
Year 2	Mrs. Cleave
Year 3	Mr. Sudbury
Year 4	Mrs. Fredrickson (Deputy Headteacher)
Year 5	Miss Stevens
Year 6	Mrs. Lowe

Uniform September 2020

Pupils will have to wear school uniform when we return in September. Remember school uniform is a blue school jumper/cardigan, yellow polo shirt and back/grey trousers/skirt. **Due to the ongoing Covid19 restrictions, we are unable to sell uniform through the office.** Therefore, if you want to buy uniform with the school badge on it, you will have to use a uniform supplier such as Bergoni.

www.bergoni.co.uk

I do believe there are other shops in town who sell St. Helen's uniform, but these are not linked to the school. This however, does not stop you using them.

School reopening arrangements

Every effort has been made to mitigate the risk to staff, pupils and public, however, it must be noted that total mitigation of the risk of contamination/infection with COVID-19 is not possible. It is compulsory for children to attend school unless there are medical reasons not to (Doctor's letter needed). There are staggered start and finish times for classes to ensure social distancing is maintained at the busiest points of the day.

Breakfast Club

There will not be a Breakfast Club until the 14th September. At this point, it will be limited as children are not allowed to mix with children from other classes. **When it reopens, please only use this facility unless absolutely necessary.** There will be a booking system which I shall share with you in September.



The times of the sessions for classes are as follows:

Class	Drop off time	Pick up time
Flying Start	8:50 am	11:20am
Nursery morning session	9:00 am	11:30am
Nursery afternoon session	1.00 pm	3:05 pm
Reception (These are the regular times, however there is a staggered start at the beginning of term. The details are included below)	8:45 am	3:15 pm
Year 1	8:45 am	3:15 pm
Year 2	8:55am	3:25 pm
Year 3	8:45am	3:15 pm
Year 4	8:55am	3:25 pm
Year 5	8:45am	3:15 pm
Year 6	8:55am	3:25 pm

Reception staggered start (you will have received communication from Mrs. Jeffery about this)

2nd, 3rd and 4th September = 8:45am start and 1:10 pm finish

7th, 8th, 9th September = 8:45am start and 2:00 pm finish

10th & 11th September = 8:45 am start and 2:55 pm finish

14th September onwards = 8:45 am start and 3:15 pm finish

Nursery arrangements (you will have received communication from Mrs. Cerasuolo about this)

Existing Nursery will come to school on Wednesday September 2nd, Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th 1pm - 3.05 pm. The whole class will move to the morning session on Monday September 7th 9am - 11.30 am.

New starters to Nursery will be started on different afternoons from Monday 7th September.

Arrangements for pupils

- The children will be organised in class groups and will not mix with any other children outside of this group. Each group will have a dedicated toilet which will be cleaned regularly. There will be a rigorous and enhanced cleaning routine in place throughout the school
- The children will wash their hands on entering and leaving the school.
- They will maintain a 2m distance from adults whilst in school. Breaktimes will be staggered so that there is a maximum of 30 pupils on the yard at any given time. No contact games will be allowed at playtime.



- They will initially undertake class activities around helping them settle back into school and also receive a broad curriculum.
- There will be no snack on sale, snack needs to be brought in by the child (fruit and not crisps, chocolates etc.). They can bring in their own water bottle with their name on it, but this must be taken home at the end of every session in school.
- The children will be washing their hands regularly throughout their session in school.
- Face coverings and other forms of PPE are not required.
- Each child will have their own pen, pencil, ruler, book etc. to ensure they only touch things that are used by them.

School lunches

School cooked lunches will not start until the 14th September and we have still not received guidance on how this will look e.g. types of menus, arrangements etc.

Therefore, all pupils need to bring a healthy packed lunch with them every day until the 14th September.

For those pupils in receipt of free school meals, your BACS payments will continue until the 14th September. This money should be used to provide a packed lunch for your child.

Arrangements for parents

- **No child must attend school and will not be admitted if they or anyone in their household has symptoms of Covid19. This is essential to keep everyone safe and you will be expected to confirm this with us when you drop off your child.** The main symptoms are: a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature). Please do not give your child Calpol to mask any temperature.
A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.
- If your child develops symptoms whilst in school, they will be isolated and you will be contacted to pick them up immediately. It is essential that we have up to date contact numbers for you and that you leave your phone on when your children are in school. **Any child with symptoms who is not picked up immediately puts everyone at risk.** We have spent a lot of time during the school closure trying to contact parents who have changed their mobile number and even moved home without telling us.
- You will be given drop off and pick up times for your child. It is essential that you stick to these to help with social distancing around the school and ensure everyone is kept safe. **All children must be brought to school and picked up by an adult over 18.**
- **You must maintain a 2m social distance from other children and parents at all times whilst on school premises.**



- When dropping your children off, the children will line up on the yard, there will be teachers on the yard to help you with this. There is a maximum of 1 parent per child for dropping off. For Infant pupils, please stay with your child until they have been taken in by their class teacher. **Once the children are in school, please leave the school premises immediately and do not hang around outside the school gates.**
- Please take this opportunity to walk, cycle or scooter your children to school, please do not come in your car unless absolutely necessary. This will ensure an orderly environment around the school and ensure you don't have to spend time trying to find parking and then missing your very important dropping off/picking up time.
- When picking your children up, please stand on the 2m markers for your child's class. You will then be called forward to collect your child. Please do not approach the exits until you have been asked by your child's teacher. **Once you have picked up your child, please leave the school premises immediately and do not hang around outside the school gates.**
- **Parents are not allowed in the school building unless they have an arranged appointment.** If you wish to speak to Mrs. Davey in the Office, a class teacher or the Headteacher, you must do this initially by phone.
- **It is essential that you have your child's Hwb log in as this is the way we get your child's home learning activities to you. If you do not know this log in, you must contact your child's class teacher immediately.**

Reading over the Summer holidays

Today (Friday 17th July) will be the last day for children to use Reading Buddy. Your child will be encouraged to start using it again when they return to school in September. In the meantime if you want to access e books please can you log onto <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> Once you have joined free parent membership you can follow the instructions in the attachment to access lots of books during the summer holiday.

As I started with, this is not school as we knew it before the current pandemic crisis. This form of schooling will cause many anxieties for both pupils and parents. We will work hard to ensure the children are settled, safe and enjoy coming to school. **Our ways of working may change but our values of ensuring every child is safe, well cared for and gets the best education possible won't.** If you have any questions about our return to school and want to discuss any anxieties, please contact me via email on ThompsonM28@hwmail.net.

I hope you all enjoy the Summer holidays and have a safe, peaceful and relaxing time. Good luck to all of our pupils who are leaving for new schools, we will miss you! I look forward to seeing you all back safely on September 2nd.

Mr. M.S. Thompson
Headteacher

