



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

Headteacher: Mr. M.S. Thompson, B.A. Ed.(Hons), NPQH
Acting Deputy Headteacher : Mrs. J. Lowe B.A.(Hons), PGCE
Flying Start Childcare Manager: Mrs.A.Cable
☎: (01792) 655763
✉: (01792) 470019

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

www.sthelensprimary.uk.org

follow us on twitter: @sthelensp



Professional Teaching Awards Cymru Winner 2017

9th March 2021

Dear parent/carer,

Welcome back for Juniors as well as Infants

It will be fantastic to see all Junior pupils return to school and join our Infant pupils on Monday March 15th. It has been a long time at home for Junior pupils and I'm sure you are all looking forward to the return! The Infants have settled back in very well and I'm sure everything will go as smoothly with Junior pupils and parents.

It is important to remember that although all pupils are returning to school, this is not a return to normality. The children will continue to remain in class bubbles, and they must not associate outside of school. It is up to us as adults to keep transmission in the community low and stick to all of the rules. This means not meeting in each other's houses, having play dates, sleep overs or playing in the park together etc.

Please work with us to keep everyone safe, it would be a real shame and ultimately very dangerous if people breaking the rules led to positive cases and groups of pupils/staff having to self-isolate.

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.



The times of the sessions for classes are as follows:

Class	Drop off time	Pick up time
Flying Start morning session	9.00 am	11:30am
Flying Start afternoon session	1.00 pm	3:30 pm
Nursery morning session	9:00 am	11:30am
Nursery afternoon session	1.00 pm	3:00 pm
Reception	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

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 for pupils 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 now be available to all pupils.

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.**
- 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 and all parents must wear a face covering unless medically exempt. 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 to speak to others. This is essential to stop community transmission.**
- 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 to speak to others.**
- **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.

Electronic devices

Could all pupils who have loaned a device during the closure please return it to school when the children come back.

Finally

We know this is an extremely difficult time for everyone in the community. We are all worried about keeping safe and the effect the school closure is having on our children. By supporting one another, we can get through this and hopefully better times are ahead. If you require any support from us, please always remember we are to help and not judge. Every family circumstance is different and we appreciate that. Please take advantage of everything we have to offer.



As I started with, this is not a return to normal and we must all stick to the rules to keep the school open. The return to school may 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.

Mr. M.S. Thompson
Headteacher

