



HOLY SOULS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

"a place where we pray together and everyone is important"

Mallard Close, Acocks Green, Birmingham, B27 6BN

Tel: 0121 272 1776

Email: enquiry@holysoul.bham.sch.uk

Website: www.holysoul.bham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Girling



A St. Teresa of Calcutta
Multi Academy Company
School

Friday 3rd September 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to our new school year. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer break and that you and your families are safe and well.

A big Holy Souls **welcome** to all our new Reception children and their families and any new children and families joining us. We are looking forward to getting to know you and wish you a happy and enjoyable journey here with us.

As you are now aware changes have been made to restrictions regarding Covid and we are all hopeful of some normality. What is key is that we remain vigilant in our routines and maintain the high standards we set that resulted in a successful care, health and safety for our community. We are keeping all of our routines and systems in place.

All children will return to school full time from the beginning of the Autumn term. We will continue to support parents and children in returning to school with confidence during these uncertain times.

The following information sets out a guide to the school day and how we see this been undertaken. It is subject to change as we trial the processes as the children return to school.



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Thank you for your patience as we all adjust to new entrances and times over the next few weeks!

MORNING ARRANGEMENTS

Gates open	Gates close	Gate A	Gate B
8:30am	8:40am	R/1/2/6	3/4/5

Please **Drop** your child at their designated gate and **Go!** They know where they are going and there are plenty of school adults on hand to assist. It worked brilliantly last year. Thank you.

All gates **will be locked** at 8:40am. **Lessons start at 8:40am.** Any child arriving after 8:40am will need to be signed in by their parent / carer entering through Gate B.

END OF DAY ARRANGEMENTS

YEAR GROUP	TIME	PARENTS IN	PARENTS OUT
R	As outlined in your New Starter Pack	GATE A	GATE A
1	2:50pm	GATE A	GATE B
2	2:55pm	GATE A	GATE B
3	2:55pm	GATE C	GATE B
4	3:00pm	GATE C	GATE B
5	3:00pm	GATE A	GATE B
6	3:00pm	GATE A	GATE B

SIBLINGS will go home at the time of the youngest child in the family.

It is essential that **you ARRIVE at the allocated time.** Thank you.



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PARKING

Cars – please do avoid driving down Mallard Close (of course unless you are a resident) or a Blue Badge holder. This is for the safety of the 400 children and their families who require access to crossing the road. The Church car park is free and always available. The Spread Eagle car park does charge. Please be aware we cannot assist if a parking ticket or fine is issued. Please can Blue Badge Holders park opposite Gate C.



We await further information from the Highways Agency regarding access to Mallard Close for articulated vehicles. Thank you for respecting our lovely neighbours on Mallard Close.

Uniform and equipment

All children are expected to wear full school uniform. Each child will be provided with their own pencil case containing all the stationery they need to do their work and activities. Children will be able to bring home reading books so school book bags can be brought into school daily.

Children may bring in a water bottle labelled with their name, this should be taken home each day for cleaning. (No fizzy or sport drinks please)

Apologies for the delay in school uniform. We are hoping to receive the order next week. The office will contact you when it has arrived. Children may wear a suitable plain sweater / cardigan until your order arrives.

PE Kit

Children are allowed to wear their PE kit on the days they have their PE lessons. Individual class PE days will be shared with parents via class Dojo. PE kit consists of a white polo t-shirt, navy shorts / navy tracksuit bottoms, black pumps / trainers and Socks. No logos or hoodies.



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Lunch Time

We will continue to run a full school kitchen on our return to school in September. Children will be eating their lunch in the dinner hall. A lunch register will be taken on the first day back, if you wish to make any changes you must email our enquiry address giving at least one week's notice of any changes. Please label your child's lunch box (and uniform!) and water bottle.

Paying for school lunches

If you have to pay for your child's school lunch, this must be done via ParentMail. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 do not have to pay for school lunch.

Break times

Whilst outside for break times, the children will remain in year group bubbles in a designated area of the school playground. Any equipment used will be cleaned regularly.

Breakfast Club

Reopens on Wednesday 8th September 2021. The club is accessible to **working parents** from Reception to Year 6. Please see previous emails or contact the office for further details. Places are limited to 30 children per day with a daily charge of £1:50. You must pay via ParentMail, weekly in advance. The Breakfast Club contract must be signed prior to your child starting.

Access to school office

Access to the office is currently not permitted. Should you need to contact the office staff please do so via telephone (0121 272 1776) or via the enquiry email - enquiry@holysoul.bham.sch.uk

Contacting your child's class teacher

Class Dojo/Email

This excellent form of communication will continue to be used. Please can you ensure that you have linked up with your child's new class teacher. Any technical issues please call or email the office. You can also access your child's teacher via email. Please be aware that these cannot be checked throughout the day during teaching time. They are accessed by staff between 8:00am and 8:15am and 3:15pm and 4:00pm.

To assist the smooth running of the end of day if you wish to speak to your child's class teacher please book a telephone appointment with them.



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St Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Multi Academy Company

Head Office: Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School | 39 Victoria Road | Birmingham | B27 7XY

Tel: 0121 706 4200 | info@stocmac.org.uk | Company House Number: 11844357



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COVID 19

As restrictions have changed from August 19th 2021 please be aware that we are continuing to follow all DFE and Government Guidelines. School have attended Birmingham Local Authority update training and completed our Outbreak Management Plan.

Covid-19 Government guidance has removed the requirements for some measures of control, but others remain. Hand washing and sanitising will still be a key part of our school routines and the ventilation of classrooms will also be a priority. All members of the school community will be encouraged to operate strict standards of hygiene and not attend if they have symptoms of Covid-19, in which case they should get a PCR test immediately. If your child displays symptoms please follow the guidelines and contact school via the covid@holysoul.bham.sch.uk if your child records a positive result.

Attendance

It is vital that your child is in school every day and on time. We have lost precious time and it is essential that they access all aspects of school life. Following a change to government guidance, there will no longer be the need for large numbers of pupils to isolate following a positive case of Covid-19. In school, we would like all pupils to strive to be in school whenever possible and only be absent if absolutely necessary.

Following the change to self-isolation guidance from 19th August, pupils under the age of 18 and 6 months, are no longer required to self-isolate as a close contact, even if the positive test is from someone in their household, although a PCR will be recommended. Self-isolation is not required whilst waiting for the result of a close contact PCR, unless the test result subsequently comes back positive. Government instructions are now reminding us that parents have a duty to ensure their child attends school regular and that schools must 'follow up' any absence. Government instruction is that persistent non-attendance should be sanctioned in line with local authority codes of conduct. A reminder that this means that if pupil's attendance is less than 90% or on this trajectory, except for Covid-19 absence, we would have to take further action to help this improve.

What Do I do if my child has symptoms or tests positive?

Please follow this link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>



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Welcome back

For a safe return to education for Primary school

Update and
information for
parents



1

If your child has been identified as a close contact, they should continue to attend school as normal

2

If possible please get a PCR test if identified as a close contact

3

Your child does not need to remain in a bubble

4

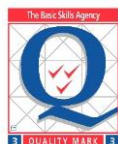
Staff are required to take twice weekly home tests

5

Your school will no longer trace close contacts

6

Your child will not be included in the rapid testing programme



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Back to School

Five tips to help you be responsible when going back to education to protect yourself and others from COVID -19

- 1. You are advised to wash your hands, wear a face mask in crowded spaces, and keep your space.**
- 2. Test regularly. You should take two lateral flow test 3-5 days apart**
- 3. You should take a PCR test if a close contact tests positive**
- 4. You should take a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms and self-isolate if you test positive**
- 5. Positive cases identified by NHS test and trace are legally required to isolate**

Remember it's your responsibility to protect yourself, friends, family, and teachers

@Healthy Brum



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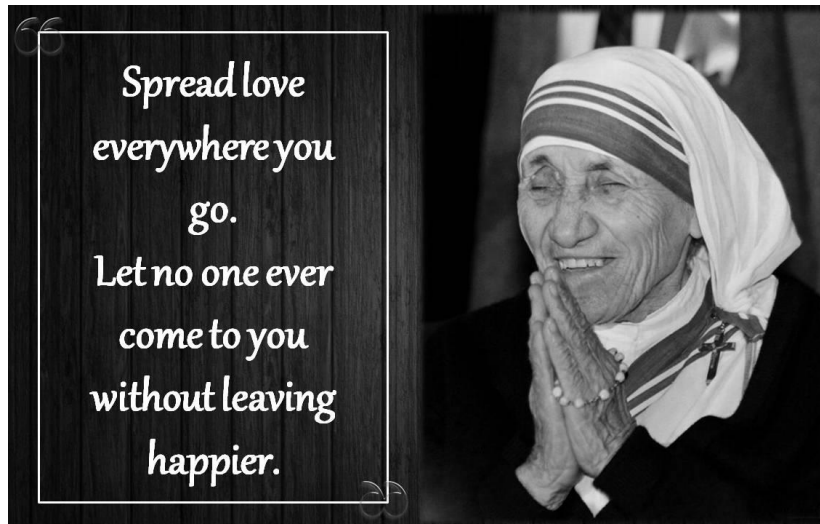
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Saturday 5th September is the Feast Day of St Teresa of Calcutta.



Welcome to St Chad's (Birmingham City Centre) Primary School. The Rosary (Saltley) and St Joseph's (Nechells) who have joined our academy. We now have four primary schools and our two secondary schools – Archbishop Ilsley and Holy Trinity. We look forward to working with you, learning from you and doing great things together.

We wish our Year 6 now Year 7 pupils a happy and successful start at their new secondary schools.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday 6th September at 8:30am. Lessons start at 8:40am.

God Bless and let us look forward to a brilliant new school year!

Have a great weekend.

Mrs R A Girling

Head Teacher



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