

Friday, 7th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well and that you have been able to enjoy the summer break as much as possible.

I am writing to update you, as per communication on Wednesday of this week, on our plans for a 'soft start' return to school for all pupils next week. You will recall that the Frist Minister announced that all schools would open next week and that the expectation is that all young people are back in school full-time by the **17th August**.

To ensure a safe return to school and to allow key staff to deliver important messages to all young people and as we phase-in our new structures and routines, we have staggered the return to school next week of all year groups as follows:

Broad General Education

S1

S1 will attend school for the first time on **Wednesday, 12th August at 8:50am**, reporting to school through the main pupil entrance where they will be met by their year head, Ms Hewitt and organised into their new groups between our S1 yard and the Square (our main social space). From this point, S1 will be in school full-time every day.

S2

S2 will attend school for the first time on **Friday, 14th August at 9am**, reporting to school through the main pupil entrance where they will be met by their year head, Mr Shannon. They will be organised by their classes 2A-2F. From this point, S2 will be in school full-time every day.

S3

S3 will attend school for the first time on **Thursday, 13th August at 9am**, reporting to school through the main pupil entrance where they will be met by their year head, Mr Shannon. They will be organised by their classes 3A-3F. From this point, S3 will be in school full-time every day.

Senior Phase

To allow dissemination of subject choice information, timetables and to ensure other key aspects of return to school (normally done in June) can happen safely, we have staggered the start times of each year group in our Senior Phase. **Those who use the Milton school transport facility can do so but should report to their head of year upon their arrival at 8:50am.**

It is vital that all other S4-6 young people adhere to the timings indicated.

S4

S4 will attend school for the first time on **Friday, 14th August**, reporting to school as follows:

- Surnames A-G – should report at 10am
- Surnames H-M – should report at 10:40am
- Surnames N-W – should report at 11:50am

At these allocated times, S4 should report to school via the main pupil entrance where they will be met by their head of year, Mr Houston. From this point, S4 will be in school full-time every day.

S5

S5 will attend school for the first time on **Wednesday, 12th August**, reporting to school as follows:

- Surnames A-F – should report at 10am
- Surnames G-M – should report at 10:40am
- Surnames N-Z – should report at 11:50am

At these allocated times, S5 should report to school via the main pupil entrance where they will be met by their head of year, Mr Gallagher. From this point, S5 will be in school full-time every day.

S6

S6 will attend school for the first time on **Thursday, 13th August**, reporting to school as follows:

- Surnames A-J – should report at 10am
- Surnames K-M – should report at 10:40am
- Surnames N-Z – should report at 11:50am

At these allocated times, S6 should report to school via the main pupil entrance where they will be met by their head of year, Ms Hewitt. From this point, S6 will be in school full-time every day.

School Uniform

School uniform will be worn as normal in All Saints' to include our **school blazer** for all young people, and **100% black** shoes or trainers. The wearing of full school uniform is an essential part of our school ethos and I would anticipate all young people in full uniform.

Our uniform provider is currently taking online orders and has provided some online sizing guides on their website too. School ties should also be purchased from our provider if required.

<https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/all-saints-secondary-school.html>

Social Distancing

As you will be aware, current guidance from the Scottish Government stipulates that there is very limited risk in transmission between school-aged young people. As such, and to facilitate 100% return to school, there is no requirement for social distancing **between pupils** on their return to school. We will however, continue to work to keep year groups separated as much as possible and have put in place some measures to support this, including staggering interval and lunch-time serving windows and creating areas in our fuel-zone for each cohort. Current national advice states that there is no requirement for school-aged children to wear masks *in school*. Rules for public transport (not school buses) and local shops will be in line with government advice.

2m social distancing remains in place **between pupils and adults** and I would ask that you reinforce the importance of adhering to this with your child prior to their return to school next week.

Parents/Visitors to our school

I would ask that as much as possible, **parents/carers do not enter the school estate** without prior appointment; where parents/carers are dropping off their child, I would ask that you do so away from the school building/gates. We are working hard to control the flow of people into our building in line with government advice.

If you need to speak to someone regarding your child, please telephone our school office or get in touch with their Pupil Support Teacher or Head of Year in the usual way.

Hygiene

There is an increased focus on hygiene in order to control/stop the spread of Covid-19. We have produced a very detailed Risk Assessment which can be shared with you on request.

To support good hygiene, we have also planned the following:

- There will be a hand-sanitising station at the main entrances to our school for use by all young people, staff, visitors and contractors as well as wall-mounted hand-sanitising stations throughout the school.
- Each classroom has been provided with refillable hand-sanitiser to facilitate regular hand-washing in each lesson – young people will be asked to wash their hands regularly.
- Each classroom has been provided with an anti-bacterial spray and disposable roll to allow young people to wipe their desks and/or equipment after each lesson.
- Additional cleaning will take place throughout the school day, focusing on door handles, touch plates on doors, bannisters and toilet areas. There will continue to be 6 hours of cleaning split pre- and post- school day, every day.
- We are asking that all young people and parents sign up to a ‘Pupil Contract’ which ensures everyone has social distancing and good hygiene and the forefront of their minds.

Our Fuel Zone – Intervals and Lunch-times

Cordia (who manage our school meal provision) are operating a **cashless** system at present. This means that any child wishing to *purchase* food from the Fuelzone in any Glasgow school, in the morning or at lunch-time, must do so using a pre-paid credit. This is arranged via a BACS transfer from their parent/carer’s bank account into our school account.

In the interim, I would encourage you to provide your child with a packed-lunch/snack that they can have at interval and/or lunch-time. Young people are not permitted to leave school at interval but those in S2-S6 may visit local shops as usual at lunch-times; it is worth

emphasising that these local shops are likely to insist that young people wear masks on entry to the shop.

Those in receipt of Free School Meals will be provided with a hot or cold meal at lunch-time – if they wish to *purchase* food at interval, then the same BACS transfer is required. There is no BACS transfer required for free school lunches.

Further details of this will be issued next week via our Pupil Support Team and support with the administration of the BACS transfer will be available. Mr Gallagher, head of Pupil Support, will be in touch.

Curriculum

We intend to offer our curriculum as normal and the vast majority of the subjects we normally deliver will be on offer; there will be some adaptations to teaching methodologies and also to the learning experience in some areas. Physical Education will take place entirely outdoors for the foreseeable future – this is in line with updated guidance from Education Scotland. As such, I would encourage your child to bring full P.E. kit, appropriate for outdoors in the Scottish weather, when they have timetabled P.E.

I appreciate that this is a lengthy letter with lots of information. Please don't hesitate to contact me at the email address on the top of this letter should you need any clarity on anything contained here. This has been a challenging period for all of us; the main thing now is that we get our young people back to school and back to their learning in as safe and effective a way as possible.

I am very much looking forward to seeing all young people back in school next week and to working with you over the coming months.

Regards,

Brian McDermott

Acting Head Teacher

All Saints' RC Secondary

