



St. Edward's Catholic Primary Teaching School

Head Teacher Mr. Paul Underwood

Dear Parents/Carers,

This has been an unusual and challenging year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in significant disruption in school life and the learning of our pupils. Remote learning cannot substitute the high quality of learning that takes place in the classroom on a day to day basis, however, during school closures it has offered an ongoing form of education for our pupils. Whilst our school has only been open to some pupils in specific year groups we have maintained contact with our families by phone, e mail and through the online Purple Mash platform. Should the need arise in the autumn term, we will continue with remote learning which will be enhanced by Microsoft Teams and has been trialled by some year groups in the summer term. This system will allow teachers to set, monitor and provide feedback for homework set online.

The government has announced that all schools will open fully from the start of the autumn term. We look forward to the start of 2020/2021 academic year in September. We have put robust measures in place to ensure that all members of our school community will be safe. These include:

- Parents will not be allowed on school premises without prior appointment. Any queries from parents can be answered on the phone or via our school e mail. If a meeting is needed and has been arranged then parents will be expected to wear a face mask whilst in school. As per advice from Newham, children under 11 do not need to wear a face mask whilst in school. Some staff members will be wearing a mask or face shield due to the close contact with younger children or those pupils with additional needs.
- Parents must not congregate unnecessarily outside the school gates. This will cause congestion and heightens the risk of infection as well as making it difficult to dismiss our children safely. Teachers will be near the entry/exit points to meet the children and dismiss them at the start and end of the school day.
- Children who have or display COVID-19 symptoms will not be allowed to come to school and will have to self-isolate for the required period – advice by the government and the local authority states that this is 10 days for the person who has symptoms or is infected and 14 days for all their household members. Any individual should NOT stop self-isolating until their fever has been gone for 48 hours.
- Children's temperatures will be checked on arrival at school and parents will need to wait until the teacher confirms that their temperature is in the normal range. If their temperature is high then parents will need to take their child/children home immediately. Parents/carers will also be called to come and collect their child if they have symptoms or if they become unwell during the school day. On entry to school all children will sanitise their hands and will continue to do so throughout the school day.

- Pupils will come to school in full uniform and should bring with them a PE bag, a full water bottle with their name clearly written on it and a coat when needed. Children will not need a regular school bag as they will not be taking any school resources home or bringing anything else in. The school will provide pupils with all the necessary resources for learning.
- Students will continue to have a school lunch provided by our catering team in the school hall. Those children who have packed lunch can continue to do so. Children will sanitise/wash their hands before entering and leaving the hall.
- Students will be taught in year group bubbles and may pass other year groups in the corridor. Such fleeting contacts are not thought to present a significant risk – this will be kept to a minimum. Children will be taught by their class teacher for the majority of lessons, however, will have cover teachers who teach them when the class teacher is unavailable due to absence or training events.
- Students will continue to move around the school using the one way system and will line up at the end of each day so that they can be dismissed in an orderly manner. On arrival in September pupils will be informed and shown how to move around the school.
- Pupils will have staggered arrival times, break and lunchtimes and finish times at the end of the day. Different entry and exit points will be operating to avoid large groups of parents or children gathering in one place. It is very important that parents bring their children to school on time in the morning and collect them promptly at the end of the day to avoid a large number of people together in one place.
- Year groups have been designated specific toilets to use during the school day.
- Sanitisers have been installed at entry points and in all areas in the school building – students and staff are expected to use these regularly as well as washing hands with soap and water several times during the day.
- Each classroom will have supplies of tissues and bins with lids so that they can be disposed of correctly.
- Antiseptic sprays will be provided to each classroom so that they can clean equipment or surfaces they use.
- Doors in classrooms and corridors will be kept open so that pupils do not have to touch them. All windows will be left open to allow ventilation.
- Students will be assigned to specific areas of the playground so that year group bubbles do not mix.
- There will be no breakfast club or after school provision and this will be reviewed so that they can be reinstated once it is safe enough to do so
- Frequent and enhanced cleaning of the school will take place throughout the school day including before school starts and after school finishes.
- In addition to the above our normal school rules will continue to apply and it is even more important now that these rules are adhered to.

Further information regarding COVID-19 and updates for Newham can be found at:

covidhelp@communitylinks.org or www.newham.gov.uk

There is a Newham Covid helpline. The number is 0207 473 9711 (1 to 7 pm, 7 days a week)

We will continue to update our website with reminders, letters and other important information.

We understand that it will be an anxious time for the pupils when they return in next week. We have carefully considered the needs of our children and will ensure that their physical and emotional wellbeing is a priority.

Pupils in Year 1 to 6 will start school on Thursday the 3rd of September. Children in Nursery and Reception will have later start dates; EYFS staff have informed parents of their children's specific start dates in dates during the summer holidays.

Please note the following information below that advises parents of the start times for each year group and where they will enter and exit the building. All entry and exit points will be sign posted so that parents know where to wait for pick up and arrival.

<u>YEAR GROUP</u>	<u>ARRIVAL TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DEPARTURE TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Nursery	Morning - 8.45 am Afternoon - 12.10pm	Playground gate into Nursery gate	Morning - 11.50 am Afternoon - 3.10 pm	Nursery gate into playground gate
Year 1	9.10 am	Playground gate into school via playground doors near toilets	3.20 pm	Come out of playground doors near girl's toilet
Year 2	9.00 am	Main door gate at front of school	3.20 pm	Main door gate at front of school
Year 3	9.10 am	Main door gate at front of school	3.30 pm	Main door gate at front of school
Year 4	9.05 am	Car gate into playground via fire gate	3.20 pm	Playground and exit via car gate
Year 5	8.55am	Car gate into playground via fire gate	3.10 pm	Playground and exit via car gate
Year 6	8.45 am	Car gate into playground via fire gate	3.00 pm	Playground and exit via car gate

We look forward to welcoming our children back on Thursday the 3rd of September.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Paul Underwood
Head Teacher