



## Frequently Asked Questions regarding the wider opening of St Mary's school, June 2020

### Who will teach my child?

Our outline for parents explains our ideas about how best to organise smaller groups of pupils and staff members, or bubbles, which will remain as a little unit within the school setting. Further information about 'who will teach who' will be shared once we have fully established availability of staff. Due to splitting the classes into separate bubbles, it may not be that all pupils see their own class teacher.

At lunchtime, each bubble will have a nominated Midday Supervisor.

### How big will the groups/ bubbles be?

Bubbles will be up to 12 children – maybe fewer.

### Does my child need to wear uniform?

Yes please – from June onwards, for all pupils on site. Children can wear their summer uniform; no tie is required; sensible shoes should be worn, suitable for outdoor learning activities. We request that children wear something different daily unless clothing can be washed and dried overnight. A plain white t-shirt would be a good alternative to a school shirt if necessary – e.g. if items no longer fit.

### What equipment should they bring?

Children can only bring into school any school reading book they have (not in a bag). If bringing their own lunch, we ask children to bring this in disposable wrapping, where possible, and include everything they need. They should bring no other equipment into school. Bags must **not** be bought in any circumstances. Mobile phones must **not** be brought.

All equipment will be provided – and will not be shared. Every child will have their own pen/ pencil/ ruler/ rubber/ pencil crayons etc.

### What will be the timings of the school day?

Year groups will come and go at slightly different times of the day. Entrance and exit doors will be noted for each class. The Key Worker/ Vulnerable group/s (KW/V) will have the longest day, between 8.30am and 3.30pm. Other year groups will be staggered to arrive at, for example, 8.45/ 9.00/ 9.15 and leave at 2.30/ 2.45/ 3.00. Breakfast and after school club will not be operational. Each class will receive a class-specific letter in advance.





### Will lunch be available?

School can provide a paid-for lunch (unless you are entitled to free school dinners, in which case it will be free) and these should be booked and paid for in the usual way.

Universal free school meals will be available, as usual, to pupils in Reception and Y1 (and in the Key Worker/ Vulnerable group in all infant classes).

It is likely that food provided by the school will be a cold option. Children are also able to bring in a packed lunch, which we would ask to ideally be in disposable packaging: we know that this goes against our recycling natures, but we need to minimise the number of items coming/ going between home/ school. If food could be easy to access (not in tricky wrappings which need adult handling), that would be ideal.

We would ask all children to bring into school their own water bottle, please.

### Which toilets will be used?

The toilets in the library area will be accessed only by year 6; Nursery, Reception and Y1 pupils will use their own classroom facilities. The KW/V children will use the toilets in the KS1 cloakroom.

Only 1 child will be allowed to use the toilets at a time.

### What about transition to secondary schools for Y6?

We will be speaking to high schools regularly about transition and we are monitoring the situation with them about what transition would be appropriate. High schools are likely to be in touch with their future students about this and whether a model for transition could be accommodated based on availability of the secondary staff.

### What will children be taught in school?

Over the two days, we will be delivering a curriculum which focuses on their transition back into school (PSHE, RE, Acts of Worship), consolidating previous learning and introducing aspects of new learning to enable children to be ready for their next year of schooling. Some aspects of the home-learning work will link with this.

### What extra are you doing to keep the children feeling safe?

Children will have regular supervised handwashing at key times of the day: fortunately, every classroom in school has its own sink.

Classroom furniture has been set out at a 1.5-2m distance.

Additional cleaning has – and will be undertaken. Classrooms will get an enhanced clean every Wednesday, between handover days. Sanitising hand gel will be available on every entrance and teachers will have this on their desks in class.



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### What about social distancing?

We will encourage children to maintain a social distance, but we will not be able to guarantee this at all times. Staff will aim to keep a social distance but will attend to pupils' needs while doing so as carefully as possible, ensuring that care and reassurance continue to be on offer.

### What about PPE?

We have been advised that children are not able to wear masks. Teachers will also not be wearing masks.

We are sourcing some visors to use when providing intimate care and first aid. Gloves and aprons may be used by staff should they require them.

### What if there is a suspected case of Covid19 in my child's bubble?

We will inform you of any suspected cases in your child's bubble. We will request that the child or adult with the suspected case gets a test as soon as possible (we are told that they will be able to get tests).

### What if there is a confirmed case of Covid19 in my child's bubble?

If a case is confirmed, all children and adults in the affected bubble will have to self-isolate for 7 days. All family members will also have to self-isolate for 14 days.

We will then be advised by Public Health England on any further action – and that may include all staff and children who have been in school on certain days needing to self-isolate for 7 days – and their families would have to do this for 14 days.

It is essential that you understand this prior to sending your child back to school: we must have agreement that you are prepared for your child to return to school on the basis that you would follow this aspect of our plan.

### What if there is a confirmed case of Covid19 in a different bubble in school?

See above.

### What if my child is poorly (not Covid19 related)?

Please contact school in the usual way to report an absence.

### Will vulnerable children or children of Key Workers be in more than 1 bubble?

No: children classified as vulnerable or with parents as key workers will be given the option to join the key worker bubble (provision over a 4-day period) or their class bubble (provision over 2 days per week). If parents choose to access the class bubble, then we will ensure siblings can attend at the same time during the week to enable parents to access work on those days.

