



# Atherton Sacred Heart RC Primary School

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## **School Reopening**

Dear Parents,

On Monday, 22nd February, 2021, the Prime Minister announced that primary schools would **reopen on Monday 8th March for all pupils**. I imagine this was a big relief for most of you. However, we appreciate that there may be some anxiety regarding the children returning to school. Thank you to those parents who have been in touch with school recently regarding this matter. We will continue to support you as planned before school reopens on Monday 8th March. All of the staff are looking forward to seeing all of our families again and having the children back in their classrooms with their full complement of friends.

The routines we had in place before Christmas will resume as we once again reopen school. This includes staggered start and end times as well as staggered breaks/lunchtimes, as well as, enhanced cleaning and personal hygiene routines.

### **School Opening Hours:**

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: 8.55 am start and 3.25pm finish.

Years 3 and 5: 9.05 am start and 3.35 pm finish.

Years 4 and 6: 9.15 am start and 3.45 pm finish.

***Update regarding staggered start times: - We are now unable to release siblings earlier than their designated time.***

***Where a family has 2 or more different start and finish times, the children should all be dropped off at the earliest designated time and then picked up at the later designated time.***

**For Example:** if you have a child in Reception and a child in Year 4, then you would drop both children off at 8.55 am and pick up both children at 3.45 pm.

If you have a child in Y4 and a child in Y5, then you would drop both children off at 9.05am and pick up both children at 3.45 pm.

Please try to arrive no earlier than your child's designated start time. It would be most helpful if you arrived a minute or two after this time. This is to ensure that parents are not queuing and therefore won't be part of any track and trace contacts should we need to inform individuals or whole class 'bubbles' of the need to isolate due to being a close contact of a positive case. By adhering to the timings, this also allows the children to enter school safely and not mix unnecessarily in the corridors or cloakrooms. When on the school grounds, please adhere to social distancing rules.

### **Uniform and hygiene:**

School uniform must be worn (PE kit on PE day(s)). However, on Tuesdays, the children can wear their own clothes (sensible and appropriate footwear and clothing for school - no jewellery or accessories). We will review this at Easter in light of any new guidance.

**We appreciate some children may have outgrown their uniform and some items of clothing may be more difficult to replace at this moment in time. Please let school know if you are having any difficulties in this matter.**

It is advised that clean clothes should be worn every day in school. Upon returning home, it is advised that they wash their hands again in soapy water, change out of their school clothes and continue to wash frequently during the evening to help reduce the spread of the virus.

### **Shielding:**

If you have recently received a letter advising you to shield and you are unable to bring or collect your child from school, please let the office know so that we can support you in this matter.

### **Wrap Around Care - Breakfast and After School Clubs:**

As part of the reopening announcement, Wrap-Around care provision should restart. Therefore, we will be offering before and after school provision. Places are still limited, in line with social distancing and national guidance.

Breakfast Club - 7.45 am start time and costs - £2.50 without breakfast and £3.50 with breakfast.

Kidz at Heart - 4.45pm finish time (£3) or 6pm finish time (£7.50 inc. a snack). Childcare vouchers can be used as payment for the 6pm club.

Kidz at Heart (6pm) Club will once again resume from Monday, 8th March. Please book in advance where possible and the enrollment form must have been completed before your child can attend the 6pm part of the club. If you are an existing attendee of this club, then you do not need to re-enrol.

To book Breakfast and After School Club places, please contact the school office.

### **Masks and Testing:**

The wearing of masks in primary school is not statutory. As previously stated, if you feel more comfortable with your child wearing a mask during break and lunch times, then we can accommodate this request. Please ensure your child's mask is labelled - thank you.

Primary School aged children are not being tested in school. This is only being asked of secondary aged pupils. Staff in school are undertaking the Lateral Flow Tests twice a week.

### **Devices:**

If you received a school device during the school closure, please return it along with any accessories (power supply, bag etc...) when you drop off your child(ren) on Monday 8th March. This is so that we can ensure that they are quarantined and then available to be used by the children in school.

### **General Information:**

During the first week back, we will be spending time with the children catching up with them all. We are hoping for dry weather in the coming days so that all of the classes can spend some time on the school field during the first week back. More details to follow before Tuesday, 9th March, 2021.

School snack provision will continue as normal. Please ensure all payments are made on or before Monday 8th March. Thank you to those parents who have already spoken with the office staff regarding their accounts.

I appreciate there is a lot of information here to digest. I have shared it with you now so that you have time to take it all in before we reopen in just over a week's time.

Take Care

Mr McDermott