



# St Barnabas CE First and Middle School

**Dream Believe Succeed**

Acting Headteacher: Stephen Booth  
Deputy Head: Tamzin Richards

www.st-barnabas.dowmat.education  
office@st-barnabasfirstmiddle.worcs.sch.uk

Stonebow Road, Drakes Broughton  
Persore, Worcs., WR10 2AW  
T: 01905 840366

Tuesday 25th August 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

## Return to school - Thursday 3rd September

Staff have been busy in school during the past few weeks and continue being busy as we complete our preparations for the return of your children on Thursday 3rd September. We are aware that as well as being lots of excited children and parents who are itching to get the new term started that there will be some children and parents who are anxious about the return to school. We would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that we are working extremely hard to minimise the risks for pupils and staff.

The arrangements below are correct at the time we send you this letter but as the term develops some of the timings and other features might change to improve your child's experience here at school and to ensure that we adhere to future DfE/Government guidelines.

## Arrival and Departure from school

The table below gives details of the start & end times of the school day and the entrance & exit routes that the children must use when they arrive & leave school each day. We are utilising as many entrances and exits as possible to minimise the number of people at any location within the school grounds as well as staggering arrival and departure times. If you have children in different year groups then siblings may arrive at the same time. Please arrive at the earliest arrival time.

We are asking everyone to arrive and collect children from school in a prompt manner so that we reduce the amount of people in and around the school site. Please note that if a child is substantially late for school then we may have to take the decision to refuse to admit on that day. To minimise parents & children arriving at school at other times during the school day it would be helpful if medical & other appointments could be arranged outside of school hours. We appreciate that this is not always possible and as such we would recommend that pupils do not attend on that particular day.

We would prefer that only one adult walks to school with our younger pupils and that adults do not congregate outside school again so that we maintain the appropriate levels of social distancing. To help with our organisation of dedicated pathways into school older pupils must not travel to school by bike or scooter. Staff will be out on various playgrounds and at strategic points around the school site to ensure that all of our pupils enter and leave the building and school site via their designated pathway.



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Year Group	Arrival Time	Departure Time	Entrance/Departure Gate
Preschool	08:45 - 09:00	15:00 - 15:15	Preschool Gate
Reception	08:40 - 08:50	15:10	Main entrance ramp (Stonebow Road)
Year 1	08:45 - 08:55	15:15	Main entrance ramp (Stonebow Road)
Year 2	08:50 - 09:00	15:20	Main entrance ramp (Stonebow Road)
Year 3	08:45 - 08:55	15:20	Gate adjacent to staff room & door in between Year 3 & Year 4 classrooms
Year 4	08:50 - 09:00	15:25	Gate adjacent to staff room & door in between Year 3 & Year 4 classrooms
Year 5: Using School transport	08:45 - 08:55	15:25 - 15:30	Middle School playground gate & door adjacent to Apple Suite
Year 5: Walking to school	08:45 - 08:55	15:25	Gate adjacent to staff room and door adjacent to Apple Suite (5NM) Main entrance adjacent to the school office and main corridor (5LR)
Year 6: Using School transport	08:45 - 08:55	15:25 - 15:30	Middle School playground gate & door adjacent to Apple Suite
Year 6: Walking to school	08:50 - 09:00	15:30	Gate adjacent to staff room and door adjacent to Food Tech Room
Year 7: Using School transport	08:45 - 08:55	15:25 - 15:30	Middle School playground gate & door adjacent to Changing Rooms
Year 7: Walking to school	08:55 - 09:05	15:35	Main entrance adjacent to the school office and main corridor



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## Curriculum

During the first two days of the new term (Thursday 3rd September & Friday 4th September) the children will engage with a variety of “transition” activities that normally would have happened during the final weeks of the summer term. This will give the children the opportunity to reintegrate into the school routines as well as getting to know their new teachers.

We will start our more formal curriculum and timetable on Monday 7th September. We will be delivering a broad and challenging curriculum as well as addressing any gaps in knowledge and understanding that individual pupils may have incurred during the last few months. Year 1 - Year 7 pupils will engage with a variety of assessment tasks but these will not take place until week commencing Monday 21st September. We will use the data from the tests to plan a range of catch up activities to ensure that our pupils are working at age appropriate levels as soon as possible.

We will of course make changes to individual subjects, as appropriate, to ensure that we are following the guidelines issued by the Department for Education.

## Classrooms

We have modified the layout of our classrooms to comply with the guidelines issued by the DfE. Children will sit in pairs, side-by-side with all the desks facing towards the front of the classroom. Children will sit at the same desk each day and will be issued with their own equipment (pencil, pen, ruler etc) which will not be shared with other pupils.

Wherever possible doors will be “wedged” open and windows within the classrooms opened to allow for improved ventilation.

We will post photographs of the classrooms on our website and social media on Tuesday 1st September so that the children will have the opportunity to see their new classrooms.

Children will be taught in their allocated classrooms for all curriculum subjects other than PE & Games so that pupil movement around school is dramatically reduced. DfE guidelines specifically allow staff to teach more than one class or group of children.

## School Uniform

All children must wear their school uniform including ties for our Middle School pupils. For the first half-term we are suggesting that pupils can wear “training shoes” as part of their normal day-to-day uniform but they may also wear more traditional shoes if they prefer. We will revise this decision as the term develops and hopefully as we return to normal school life and traditions.

On days that children have PE or Games we would like the children to come to school in their PE/Games kit so that they are already changed and therefore do not have to use the changing rooms. Children may wear a tracksuit or sweatshirt & jogging bottoms over their school PE kit. Please do not send children with football themed clothing or items of clothing with inappropriate wording. Please note that PE & Games lessons will start on Monday 7th September so PE kit is not required during the first two days of term



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We would like the children to bring one bag to school which should contain their packed lunch, water bottle, iPad (Year 3 - Year 7) and reading book. Children do not need to bring a pencil case. Bags will remain with the children in the classroom. If a coat is required because of poor weather then this will remain in the classroom too. We will not be using Lockers for the first half-term.

## **Breaktime and Lunchtime**

We will be operating staggered breaktimes & lunchtimes so that we can reduce the number of children playing outside within our various outdoor spaces. Children will be encouraged and reminded in a positive way to play in a way that maintains an element of social distancing.

## **Lunch**

Our school canteen will be fully operational but for the first few weeks will only be offering sandwich based meals. Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 children are eligible for a Universal Infant Free School Meal whilst other children can pre-order a meal. Children in other year groups that qualify for a Free School Meal will of course be able to pre-order lunch from the canteen. Unfortunately we will be unable to accept cash payments and lunches will need to be purchased using our SIMS Pay system. We will write to you separately to explain how to order and pay for meals from our canteen. Children can, of course, bring sandwiches made at home and store them in their bag. Everyone will eat their lunch in their classroom sat at their normal place within the classroom.

## **Personal hygiene, hand washing & social distancing**

We will be undertaking a series of lessons prepared by the DfE during the morning of Thursday 3rd September and at subsequent times that reinforce and embed the messages that the washing of hands and social distancing are integral to help prevent infection from Covid-19. All of the lessons are age appropriate. All of the children will be encouraged to wash their hands at several points during the day and the younger children will be supervised by an adult to ensure good hygiene. We have also purchased 5 hand sanitising stations that will be used by the children as appropriate throughout the day

Each class will be allocated to use a particular toilet block which that class will use on a daily basis and children will only be allowed to use the toilets one or two at a time.

## **BOOST**

BOOST, our before and after school service, will operate from Thursday 3rd September. The only exception is that we will not be providing breakfast or an after school snack. Children attending BOOST will only sit with other children from their class. Please book places in the normal manner.

## **Behaviour**

Our pupils have very high standards of behaviour which are regularly commented upon by visitors to our school. However, any child who displays any mischievous behaviour relating to deliberately coughing or spitting at other children or adults will be excluded.

We hope that you will be able to reinforce the message that whilst at school it is vitally important that children remain seated in their classrooms, follow their designated routes when moving from one part of the school site to another



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and that the washing of hands and general hygiene are extremely important.

We appreciate that some children will be anxious about returning to school and adopting & adhering to new routines. Staff have planned a variety of activities to ease the children back into school life and routines during the two transition days next week. Our Well-Being Team will also be available to work with children who are experiencing acute anxieties. Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any concerns about your child's mental wellbeing and they will ensure that your child will be supported by members of our Well-Being Team.

We look forward to welcoming your child(ren) back to school next week and once again we appreciate your understanding and support.

Yours sincerely

*S P Booth*

Stephen Booth  
Acting Headteacher



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