



## **St. Bede's Catholic Infant School**

***'Learn to love, love to learn'***

Return to School March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

I would like to start this letter as I did back in September by saying on behalf of myself and the staff how proud we are to belong to our wonderful St. Bede's Community. It has been important throughout this difficult time for us to be as one and to care for each other. You as parents have been unswerving in your loyalty and commitment to school. It is with such gratitude that we thank you for this.

Our children of course are our true blessing. They as we have said throughout are our pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

In line with the Prime Minister's announcement, it is our plan that all children, in all year groups, will return to school from the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

We would like to reassure parents that we have, alongside other Headteachers and schools, and the Local Authority, reviewed our robust Risk Assessment and Action Plan so that we can maintain a safe learning environment for pupils and school staff when returning to school. The health and safety of our children, parents, staff and their families remains central to all our decision making as a school.

The DfE states that while coronavirus remains in the community judgements must be made at a school level about how to balance minimising any risks from the virus by maximising control measures with providing a full educational experience for children. We are required using DfE guidance to put in place proportionate protective measures for children in line with their age and stage of development and staff, which also ensure that all children receive a high quality education that enables them to thrive and progress. In maximising control measures as set out in current guidance we are confident that we are managing risk effectively.

It is obviously essential that we all continue to play our part in keeping our school and our community safe. Please read and familiarise yourself with all documents and information included in this letter and on the website most specifically the Return to School March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 section.

## Return to School March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 (School Website)

A Return to School March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 section of the school website has been created to ensure that you receive all the information you need. Included in this section of the website is:

- An Action Plan for Parents which includes essential information from our full whole school Action Plan.
- Staggered arrival and departure times, route maps for entry and exit to and from school are detailed within this letter.

### Before School

- Wash yours and your children's hands before you leave home to come to school;
- If you are unwell or your child is unwell stay at home and inform school;

Pupils, staff and other adults must not come into the school if:

- they have one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- a member of their household (including someone in their [support bubble](#) or [childcare bubble](#) they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- they are required to [quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area](#)
- they have had a positive test

They must immediately cease to attend and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:

- the start of their symptoms
- the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a [Lateral Flow Device \(LFD\) or Polymerase Chain Reaction \(PCR\) test](#))

Anyone told to isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their public health protection team has a legal obligation to self-isolate, but you may leave home to avoid injury or illness or to escape risk of harm. More information can be found on [NHS Test and Trace: how it works](#)

If anyone in school develops a new and continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), we:

- will send them home to begin isolation - the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started and the next 10 full days
- advise them to follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)
- advise them to [arrange to have a test](#) as soon as possible to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

Other members of their household (including any siblings and members of their support or childcare bubble if they have one) should self-isolate. Their isolation period includes the day symptoms started for the first person in their household, or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms, whether this was a [Lateral Flow Device \(LFD\) or Polymerase Chain Reaction \(PCR\) Test](#), and the next 10 full days. If a member of the household starts to display symptoms while self-isolating they will need to restart the 10 day isolation period and book a test.

If anyone tests positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they must restart the 10 day isolation period from the day they developed symptoms.

The symptoms are:

- a new continuous cough or
- a high temperature or
- a loss of or change in their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

### Staggered times

Arrival and departure times will be as follows and must be strictly adhered to in order to maintain harmonious social distancing and continuous flow:

Siblings within the Infant school: 8:35am – 3:00pm

Year 2: 8:40am – 3:05pm

Year 1: 8:50am – 3:15pm

Reception : 9.00am-3.25pm

Adults mustn't congregate together on the designated site route into school or outside the gates. Adults are expected to keep 2 metres apart and the children must stay with the adult dropping them off and collecting them. Only one adult will be permitted to accompany a child onto their designated route. A face covering should be worn at all times when on the school site when dropping off and collecting the children.

Due to these important routines it is essential that your child arrives and leaves at the detailed designated times. If you are late on arrival, your child's class will have already made their way into school and you will have to wait with your child until all of the other classes have gone into school. If there is more than one person late then you must wait at a distance of 2m from them.

### Face Masks

If a child arrives at school wearing a disposable face covering adults will be asked to remove it and dispose of it in the bin provided or take home any reusable face covering. Adults and children are reminded not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing it. The children must wash their hands immediately on arrival. Further guidance can be found in [safe working in education, childcare and children's social care](#).

### Travelling to School

Parents are encouraged to walk to school where possible. If you use public transport please observe Government rules.

### Communication with staff

In order to ensure social distancing and the continuous flow of people teachers will not be able to speak at any length to parents in person before or after school. Parents are asked to phone the school office with any urgent messages which will then be passed onto relevant staff.

The School Reception area is not to be accessed by parents unless staff determine it necessary. You will then be admitted one at a time. Any other parents will be asked to wait outside the door socially distanced. The DfE guidance states that coming into the site without an appointment is not allowed. However, parents can still speak to staff and receive support over the phone or via class email.

Class emails will be available as a continued form of communication. Please ensure you read all e-mails and any information, letters and messages sent and/or posted on the school website or school twitter feed.

Year 2

Blue class [blueclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:blueclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)

Aqua class [aquaclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:aquaclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)

Green class [greenclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:greenclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)

Year 1

Coral class [coralclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:coralclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)  
Scarlet class [scarletclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:scarletclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)  
Red class [redclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:redclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)

Reception

Orange Class [orangeclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:orangeclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)  
Yellow Class [yellowclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:yellowclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)  
Purple Class [purpleclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk](mailto:purpleclass@stbedesinfants.co.uk)

Please can you inform the office of any change of emergency contact or changes to people who are able to collect.

### Equipment

Due to COVID-19 children will be allowed to bring in a limited amount of equipment. This includes:

- reading book/reading diary/home school book
- book bags (no larger bags or attached key rings/ornaments)
- lunch boxes
- water bottle

### Lunchtime

All Infant children are entitled to a free school meal at lunchtime as part of Universal Infant Free school meals.

### Uniform

On return to school the children will wear their school uniform to help them to settle back into their routine.

### PE Kit

The children are to come into school in their PE kit on the day(s) they have PE. These days will return to those timetabled in September and can be found in your child's Home/School Information Book.

### Attendance

Attendance is compulsory from the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Attendance will continue to be monitored and if your child is absent you will receive a call from the school office if you have not contacted school with a reason for absence.

We completely understand the concern and anxiety our families face in this unprecedented situation. Please be re-assured that the children who returned to school in September settled very quickly and benefitted greatly socially, emotionally and academically.

### Learning

In partnership with school you have been supporting your children's learning throughout Lockdown and your support has been amazing.

### Mission Statement

At St Bede's Catholic Infant School, it is the intention of the whole school community to nurture a loving, safe, caring, supportive, quality environment in which the individual has an opportunity to develop intellectually, spiritually, morally, socially and emotionally in an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.

## Curriculum Intent/Aims

All our work is intended to fulfill our mission statement shown above. To achieve this mission, our school commits itself to continue on return in March to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the interests, abilities and needs of all our pupils, allowing each to return to outstanding rates of progress and achieve their potential in an environment where the Catholic ethos of the school permeates all aspects of teaching and learning. The current circumstances means that we need to stay steadfast in these aims.

The school has always believed in the centrality of the curriculum as part of the education provided to all children. Academic performance has always been high in comparison with national results, and all children make excellent progress in their personal growth, because of the breadth and challenge of their studies. This has been recognised by all external evaluators, including Ofsted, the local authority, the Archdiocese, and external consultants commissioned by the school. (See relevant reports)

When we return to school on 8<sup>th</sup> March we will continue to deliver our schemes of work designed to cover the National/School curriculum and Statutory EYFS Curriculum. (Please see curriculum section of the school website) Religious Education is taught through the 'Come and See' Programme. PSHE in our school covers the new statutory requirements around Relationships Education and Health Education. Relationships and Sex Education is taught through 'Journey in Love' as approved by our Archdiocese. Parents are fully consulted in relation to these areas of the curriculum.

There are subject leads for all areas of the curriculum. Mrs Paton is our EYFS Development and Assessment Lead. Miss Parle is the Key Stage 1 Curriculum Development Lead and Remote Education lead.

The school's intention is that pupils will return to their normal rates of outstanding progress very quickly, supported by early assessment of needs and appropriate provision of support/intervention. We will continue to use the 'Catch up premium' allocated to school to be deployed to support initial assessment and provide basic skills intervention.

In the context of and continued commitment to an ambitious and broad curriculum:

Teachers in Reception will continue to focus on the prime areas of learning, including: communication and language, personal, social and emotional development (PSED) and physical development. Teachers will also assess and address gaps in language, early reading and mathematics, particularly ensuring children's acquisition of phonic knowledge and extending their vocabulary. We will also consider how all groups of children can be given equal opportunities for outdoor provision.

Teachers in Key Stage 1 as in September will prioritise identifying addressing gaps and enable children to return to their outstanding rates of progress focusing on phonics and reading, increasing vocabulary, writing and mathematics. Opportunities will continue to be identified across the curriculum for pupils to read widely, and develop their knowledge and vocabulary.

DfE guidance will continue to be followed as relevant to specific subjects including Music and P.E. and other practical and physical activities across the school day.

Please take care everybody

Love from us all at St. Bede's. Xx

Please refer to the school website for essential information on curriculum and policies. Please note any policies which indicate COVID-19 addendums and the Remote Education Policy which details contingency plans as required by the DfE.

Please note that plans may be subject to amendments given any changes to government guidance and requirements. We will of course keep you updated.

# Siblings entrance and exit plan

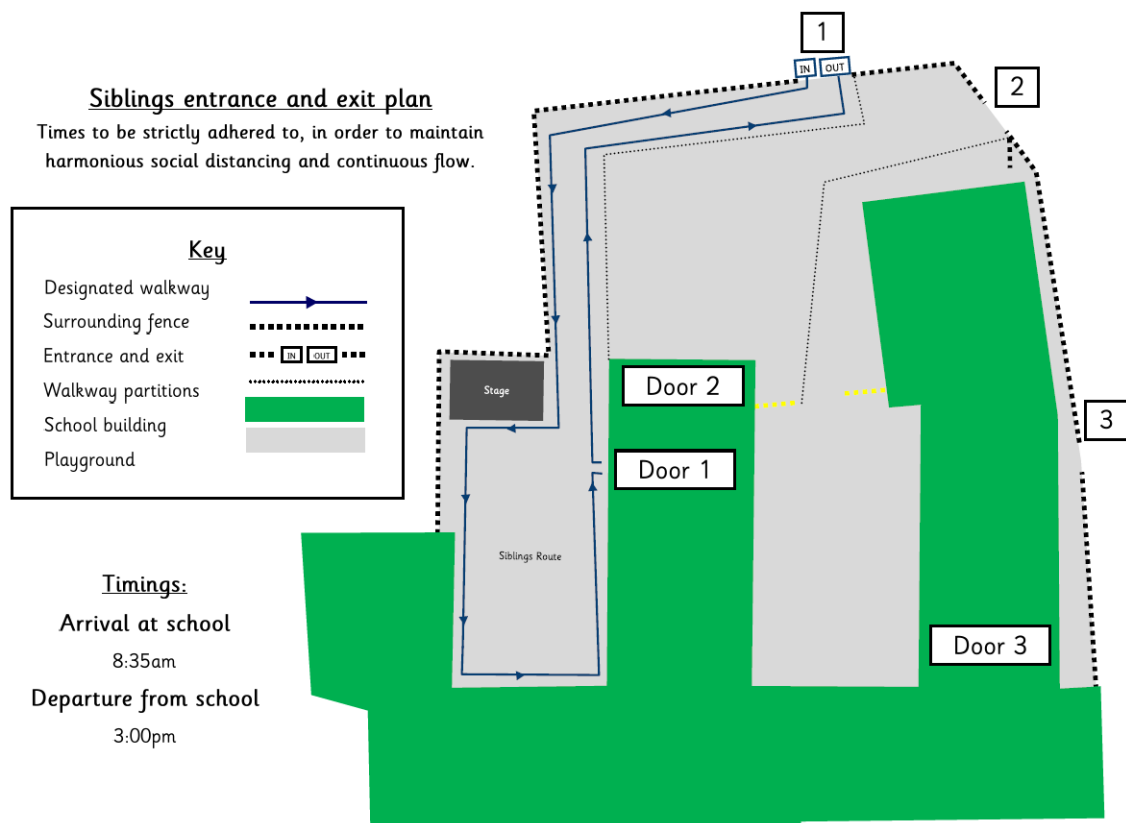
Times to be strictly adhered to, in order to maintain harmonious social distancing and continuous flow.

Your children should arrive at school at **8:35am** and will depart at **3:00pm**.

On arrival and departure, please use the school **gate 1**.

Follow the one-way route as indicated on the plan (see Key). Please ensure you adhere strictly to 2 metres social distancing whilst on the school site.

A member of staff will be waiting to greet your children at the allocated entrance as specified on the plan. You will also collect your children from the same door at the end of the day.



# Year 2 entrance and exit plan

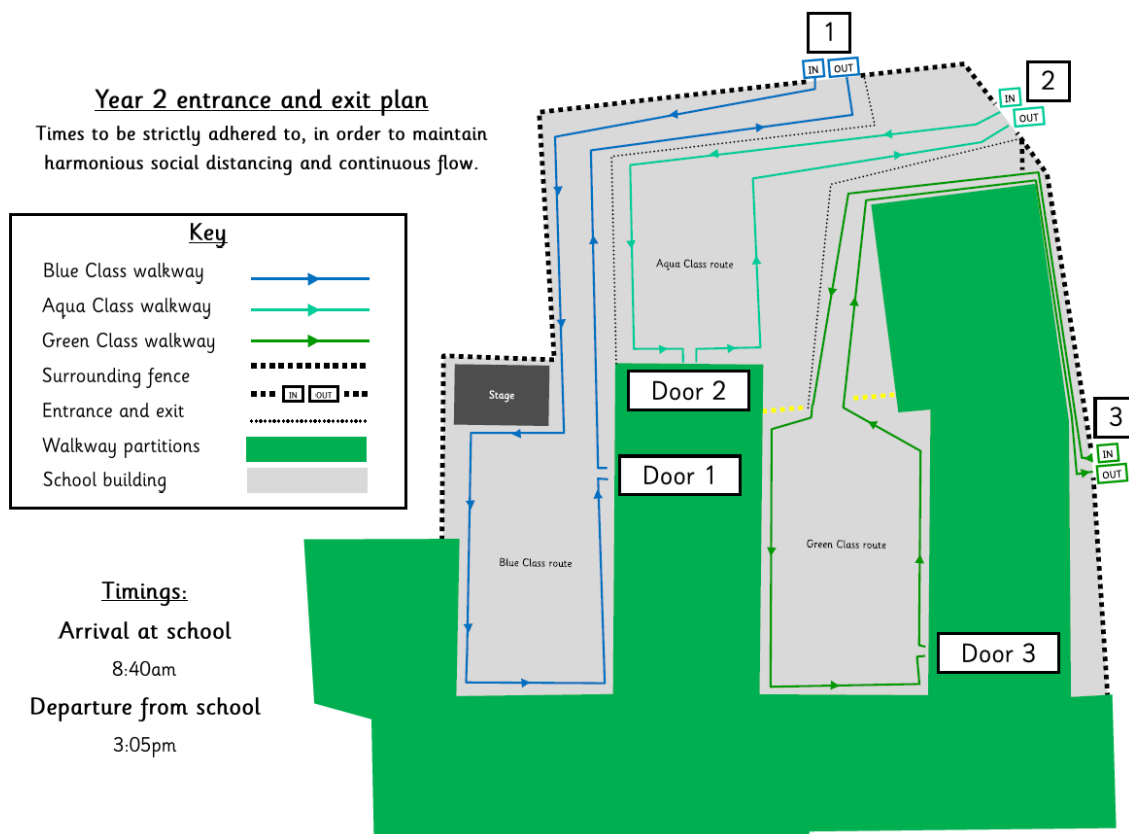
Times to be strictly adhered to, in order to maintain harmonious social distancing and continuous flow.

Your child should arrive at school at **8:40am** and will depart at **3:05pm**.

On arrival and departure, please use the school gate allocated for your child's class.

Follow the one-way route as indicated on this plan (see Key). Please ensure you adhere strictly to 2 metres social distancing whilst on the school site.

A member of staff will be waiting to greet your child at the allocated entrance as specified on the plan. You will also collect your child from the same door at the end of the day.



# Year 1 entrance and exit plan

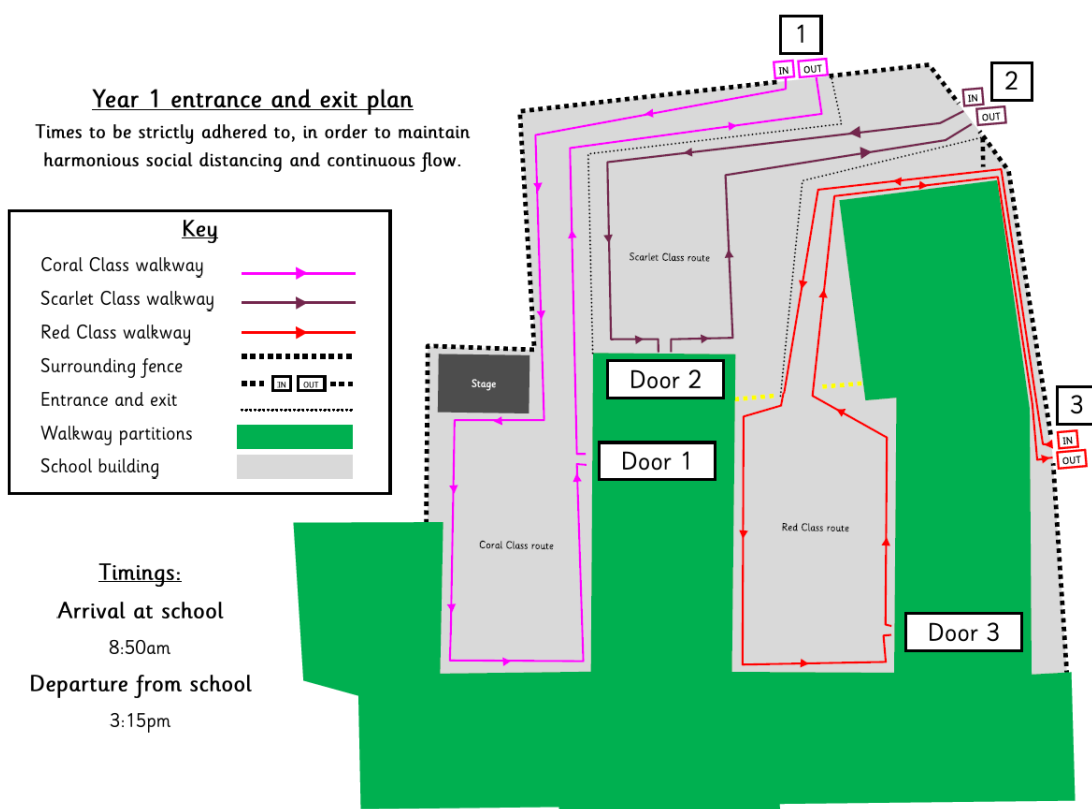
Times to be strictly adhered to, in order to maintain harmonious social distancing and continuous flow.

Your child should arrive at school at **8:50am** and will depart at **3:15pm**.

On arrival and departure, please use the school gate allocated for your child's class.

Follow the one-way route as indicated on this plan (see Key). Please ensure you adhere strictly to 2 metres social distancing whilst on the school site.

A member of staff will be waiting to greet your child at the allocated entrance as specified on the plan. You will also collect your child from the same door at the end of the day.





# Reception entrance and exit plan

Times to be strictly adhered to, in order to maintain harmonious social distancing and continuous flow.

Your child should arrive at school at **9:00am** and will depart at **3:25pm**.

On arrival and departure, please use the school gate allocated for your child's class.

Follow the one-way route as indicated on this plan (see Key). Please ensure you adhere strictly to 2 metres social distancing whilst on the school site.

A member of staff will be waiting to greet your child at the allocated entrance as specified on the plan. You will also collect your child from the same door at the end of the day.

