

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



HEAD TEACHER: MRS. A. D. THORPE

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MRS. C. HORSLEY

Front Street, Stanley, Co. Durham. DH9 0NP
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Tel: 01207 232624
Website: www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk

22nd June 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

As we move into the next phase of returning all of our children to school in this global COVID-19 pandemic, we understand all the many worries and concerns which parents/carers have both for the next four weeks and for the school's wider return in September 2020.

Both the governing body and the headteacher would like to take this opportunity to reassure you, we are already planning and thinking about the best way possible to support your children as they return to school, in the Autumn Term. As you are all aware, the Government guidance changes all the time and we are working on ensuring our plans comprise of the best advice and guidance possible. We totally agree that the ideal scenario would be, if government guidance due to be published in two weeks' time allows, to have all of our children back at school in September in their new year group classes. If, however the government guidance only permits for a blended return to school then we are currently looking at a variety of different options for that too.

We have received some questions from parents about school uniform orders for September and we are mindful of costs for parents. Current guidance states that children should wear freshly washed clothes every day, however we have relaxed the strict uniform policy to accommodate that. We would suggest that moving forward for September, that where possible pupils have two sets of full uniform as one can be being washed whilst the other is being worn, but there is no expectation that pupils need five separate sets of uniform.

Staff are working hard to create a new recovery curriculum to support all of our pupils in their learning as they return. We are mindful of the fact that pupils have been learning at home, since 20th March 2020, using the weekly plans teachers have and continue to provide via the class group pages <http://www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk/our-classes/>. Teachers are working closely with other partners to create the best possible curriculum, focused on the principle areas of learning blended with a much greater focus on social and emotional well-being for all of our pupils. The government has stated that pupils, in every year group will be able to access extra support, and as such St Joseph's is already considering how best to create this new blended learning model, within the confines of COVID-19. There is some updated advice on helping families with pupil's mental health and well-being on the school website <http://www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk/parents/covid-19-updates/>

For pupils, transition into their new classes, in September, will look different to how it has been in the past but as in everything we do at St Joseph's pupils well-being will be paramount. We are obviously aware that some pupils may struggle to adjust to their new way of learning in school; however, all of our staff are caring and



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considerate and pupils will be supported in every way possible. Parents/carers will be informed in the coming weeks about which teacher will lead which year group in September. All staff are already using the Durham County Document, 'Safe, Happy and Settled' alongside the Jigsaw programme, which is our whole school mindful approach to PSHE, as a basis of welcoming back the children who have just returned to us and it is working very well.

To give parents time to plan, government guidance currently states, schools are able to close to all pupils, including key workers during the summer holidays, so school will be closed from the evening of the 17th July 2020 and reopen on the morning of the 2nd September 2020. <http://www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/> We have pre-planned building works and regular maintenance programmes in place for the summer holidays and it is essential that we get these done as safely as possible. It is our current intention to close to all pupils for the six-week break.

For the next four weeks, numbers allowing, the attached table outlines timings and entrances for those pupils who currently have an allocated a place. As always, if the Key Worker groups needs expanding, other year groups will be required to close to make room for them, as the government has set them as the priority group. Durham County have also sent a letter out for parents <http://www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk/parents/covid-19-updates/>

Please always remember we are here to support you in any way we can during this pandemic, if you ring or email school we will always try to put you in touch with the appropriate agency to best support you. We are keeping all of our parish and school community in our prayers.

Yours sincerely,

A D Thorpe

C Horsley

P Gibson

Mrs A D Thorpe
Headteacher

Mrs C Horsley
Chair of Governors

Mrs P Gibson
Vice Chair of Governors



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Year group	Classroom Location	Staff and pupil school entrance point to school	Parental Drop off every morning	Parental collection time Mon – Thur	Parental collection time - Fri	Parent/carer pupil drop off location
REC A Mrs Quiney, Mrs Haveron and Miss Gill	Reception Room	Through the reception cloakroom door Wash hands in Rec toilet sinks	9:00am	2:45pm	12:00pm	Reception Wooden Gate
Year 1A Miss Eastham & Mrs Fitch	Year One Room	Through the nursery door Wash hands in classroom immediately	9:15am	3:00pm	12:15pm	Reception Wooden Gate
Year 6A Miss Ryan and Miss Glendenning	Year Six Room	Through the Y6 classroom Fire door Wash hands straight away then sit down at desk	9:00am	2:45pm	11:45am	Top of Cemetery path (Church metal gates)
Year 6B Mr Haveron and Mrs Haughton	Year Four Room	Through the Y4 classroom Fire door Wash hands straight away then sit down at desk	9:15am	3:00pm	12:00pm	Top of Cemetery path (Church metal gates)
Key Worker A Miss Sinden & Mrs Ashby	Year Three Room	Through the top KS1 door Wash hands in classroom sink immediately	8:45am	3:00pm	12:00pm	Back Metal KS1 Yard Gate (Front Street)
Key Worker B Mrs Scott, Mrs McMahon and Mrs Jones	Year Two Room	Through the top KS1 door Wash hands in classroom sink immediately	9:00am	3:15pm	12:15pm	Back Metal KS1 Yard Gate (Front Street)

