



ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wednesday 1st September 2021

Beginning of New School Year - September 2021

Dear Parents and guardians

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. As you already know our children will be starting the new school year 2021-22 on **Friday 3rd September 2021**.

This letter is aimed at giving you some guidance on the school day as well as general expectations for the first term of this school year.

As many Covid related restrictions have now been eased we will not be having our school organised into Bubbles any longer. We will still however continue to have some measures in place in order to avoid unnecessary contact and take all necessary precautions as suggested by the NHS and the Department of Education.

School gates will open at **8.40 am** every day and all children are expected to be in class by **8.55 am** ready for the start of the school day. The table below shows home times for each year group as well as pick up places:

YEAR GROUP	HOME TIME	PICK UP GATE
6M and 6T	3.15 pm	Car Park Exit –B1
5T	3.15 pm	Gate near Church - B2
4M and 4J	3.15 pm	Gate near Church - B2
3C and 3M	3.15 pm	Main Gate - B2
2E	3.00 pm	Main Gate - B1
1L and 1K	3.00 pm	Main Gate - B1
Rec 1 and Rec 2	3.00 pm	Nursery Gate
Nursery	11.30 am or 3.30 pm	Nursery Gate

General Expectations

- School Gates in Buildings 1 and 2 will open at **8.40 am** for everyone and close at 8.55 am. Children will be dropped off at school gates, wash hands and proceed to their classrooms.
- Once you pick up your child at the end of the day, please ensure they remain with you at all times and avoid staying in front of school gates.
- Please ensure you **arrive promptly** to collect your child at the end of each day and observe protocols.
- Correct **school uniform** should be worn at all times apart from on PE days when children continue to come to school in their full **PE Kit**.

The following measures will remain in place in school:

- Frequent hand cleaning
- Good respiratory hygiene practices and ventilation as well as frequent cleaning of surfaces.

Lunchtimes and Playtimes

- Lunchtimes continue to be staggered for the time being. These will take place over an hour and a half period with sanitisations between sittings.
- Playtime will take place in allocated areas to minimize mixing of groups of children.

Parent Communication

- Parents are encouraged to contact the school office using letters, email or telephone.
- Only **two parents at a time** will be allowed to come in to the school office foyer at any one time. We encourage parents to come to the office **between 8.40 am and 9.30 am or between 2.45 and 3.30 pm.** and to avoid other times in the middle of the day.
- All payments are to be made on **PARENT PAY**. This applies to purchasing **school bags** and paying for **school clubs**.

Online Learning

- We will continue to use **Microsoft Teams for weekly homework** and for any children who are self isolating due to Covid-19 related reasons.
- We will also continue to use MS Teams for other meetings with children and parents. Please make sure your child has the necessary **login details** to be able to complete homework regularly and take part in meetings they are invited to.
- Our **laptop lending scheme** will continue for this coming year. Parents who would like to make use of this scheme should contact the school office for more information.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your cooperation during these challenging times. We all look forward to continue to work with you to give your children the best experience possible of school. If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Camilleri
Headteacher