



Dear St Marys Families,

Re: Information for the start of term

We hope you all had a fantastic summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming you all back this Friday 3rd September.

Date for the diary-extra bank holiday

Surrey have shared with schools that all Community and VC schools will have **Friday 22 October 2021** as the date in lieu of the Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday. The school will be closed on this day so half term will begin on Thursday 21st October 2021.

What are the timings for the school day?

- The school gates will open at 8.35am and the school day will start at 8.40am
- The children can go straight to their classroom, like they do now, while parents exit using the one way system.
- Reception and Nursery parents can drop straight to their child's classroom.
- At the end of the day, the gates will open at 2.55pm for a 3pm pick up.
- Parents can collect from the classroom doors and exit using the same one way system. This has worked well and enables staff to safeguard children better in the older classes. By dismissing children from the classroom door we can ensure they reach parents safely.

Will my child need to bring their PE kit to school?

No they will come dressed in their PE kit on the day of their PE lessons. PE days will be shared with you later this week.

When will I get to see my child's classroom and meet their teacher?

Parent information meetings will take place, on site, in September. More information to follow soon.

What does my child need to bring to school?

- Packed lunch if they are not having school dinners.
- A named water bottle (with sports/no leak nozzle to avoid spillage).
- A water proof coat, as they will go out to play in light drizzle.
- They do not need pencil cases as all stationary is provided.
- A smile!

Will the children still need to be in bubbles?

- Bubbles are no longer required unless the outbreak plan is triggered and PHE advise we revert back to bubbles.
- Children will return to eating in the hall and having assemblies in the hall.

What COVID measures will be in place?

The risk assessment and preventative protocols remain in place, in accordance with new guidance released to schools on August 27th 2021.

- Use of external doors where possible
- Regular hand washing
- Natural ventilation
- Regular cleaning of touch points

Will my child have to isolate if a teacher or child in their class tests positive for COVID?

'Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated.
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months.
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial.
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a [PCR test](#). We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.' (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance#risk-assessment>)

If my child is showing symptoms of COVID will they be sent home from school?

When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#). **They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).**

If anyone in your school develops [COVID-19 symptoms](#), however mild, you should send them home and they should follow public health advice.' (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance#tracing>)

Do parents have to wear masks on the playground?

This is now not compulsory and is personal choice. If there is an outbreak /rise in cases then measures will be reviewed in accordance with guidance.

Can I walk through the school to the school office?

Please continue to follow the one way systems and do not cross the playground to the office. If you would like to talk to someone in the office, please continue to walk through the main car park to the gate at the main entrance.

If I have a question who do I ask?

All questions can be emailed to info@stmarys-byfleet.surrey.sch.uk and the office team will forward your email onto the relevant person. It is our policy to reply within 48 hours.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Jacquie Chambers
Headteacher