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**SAINT
OSWALD'S**
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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1 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Wider opening of school for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

I hope this letter finds you and your families all good, happy and healthy.

Last Thursday afternoon the Prime Minister confirmed that the Government are going ahead with their plans for primary schools to begin to open to more children this month – children in the Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 classes – in addition to the children of key workers who have attended school throughout the lockdown period.

Since the initial announcement that these children were to start returning to school in June, we have been working to develop plans which enable us to do this as safely as possible for the children and school staff, although there can be no guarantee that all risk will be eliminated. I remind you that although the Government is encouraging children to attend school, the final decision rests with parents. The Government is clear that neither parents nor schools will be penalised should parents choose for their child not to attend during the summer term.

With the health, safety and well-being of our children, staff and families being my top priority I have personalised the Warrington Local Authority model plan to put in place a plan that I believe works for our school, children and staff. Warrington LA agree that schools have to do what works best for their school and they recognise that one plan won't fit all!

Our plan starts small and builds up gradually hopefully giving staff, parents and children the time we all need to build in confidence and feel safe and secure in our new way of operating. I do not underestimate how anxious we all feel as we step forward to gradually increase the number of pupils back into school this side of the summer holidays.

In line with a suggested Warrington LA plan, we will start to increase numbers by introducing Reception children first from the 8th June, after two weeks we will then introduce Year 1 children back from the 22 June and then after another two weeks we will introduce Year 6 back to school from 6th July.



St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School, Padgate Lane, Padgate, Warrington WA1 3LB Tel: 01925 813015 Fax: 01925 820545

Head Teacher: Helen T Lennon

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In our plan, our children will be engaged in 'full time education' but this will not be 'full time on site'. Children will be offered 2 days per week in school and 3 days per week of home learning.

We will not be pulling back on home learning and will continue to provide children in all year groups with work for home learning. The school has invested heavily in work and study books to support learning at home.

The plan for children returning to school from 8 June is as follows:

- Each class will be split into 4 bubbles, 2 bubbles will attend school on a Monday and Tuesday and the other 2 bubbles will attend on Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will be our day when our cleaners will carry out a deep clean and will also be additional Teachers' planning time. A further deep clean will take place at the end of the week before children arrive in school the following Monday morning.
- The children of Key Workers will continue to have access full time on site when required. The children of Key Workers will remain in their own Key Workers' bubble - this includes children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.
- Children will remain with their new class group or 'bubble' for the entire time they are in school with minimal changes made to each group.
- Due to the splitting of classes, children may not be based in their usual classroom.
- Children may not be taught by their usual class teacher.
- Children may be taught by a Teacher or Teaching Assistant.
- A member of staff will be allocated to one group of children and there will be no/minimal mixing of staff/children from other groups except for in exceptional circumstances.
- Children will be sat separately at single desks and will keep their own personal items (eg stationery) for their use only.



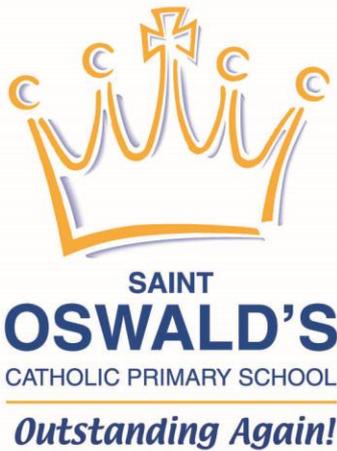
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- Classrooms have been cleared and resources will be kept to a strict minimum including only items that can be easily cleaned.
- Normal national curriculum will not be followed.
- There will be no coming together for class or whole school assemblies, prayer, gymnastics, dance, drama or singing.
- There will be no enrichment activities involving external visitors coming to school.
- Lunches will be eaten in the classrooms.
- Children will not move around the school other than to go to the toilet and to move outside for break times.
- Break times will be staggered so that each group takes their break time separately.
- Parents will not be permitted to accompany children into school under any circumstances and we will be asking parents to remain outside the school railings at the front and at the junior playground.
- Where possible we ask that children are brought to school by one adult only.
- Designated drop-off/pick-up times and locations will be allocated to avoid any crowding at the school gates. These will be allocated to parents once you have registered your intention to return your child to school.
- Children are required to arrive to school in fresh/clean clothing each day they attend. To allow school clothes to be washed each day, we will allow a relaxing of school uniform policy. In this case, suitable, practical clothes ideally in school colours should be worn.

To ensure that the school is adequately staffed/prepared for the number of children attending school from Monday 8 June, it is essential that **parents of Reception class children only** inform me as soon as possible of your intention to return/not return your child to school from next week.



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Please do this by replying to the school text or e-mailing stoswalds_primary_head@warrington.gov.uk, clearly indicating your intentions for next week. If I do not receive a response from you by the end of Wednesday 3 June, I will assume that you do not require a place in school for your child this term. To ensure safeguarding of pupils, all children who are attending school must be 'booked in' in advance so that we know which children are at home with parents, and who to include on the daily attendance register in school.

As soon as I know the number of children will be in school from next week, I will contact you again with the specific details you will need eg the days your child has been allocated, time and place for drop off and pick up etc.

I will write again to parents of Year 1 children week beginning 15 June, and Year 6 week beginning 29 June to request that you register your intention for your child to attend school or not. If however at this point you are absolutely certain your child will not be returning to school this term, it would be helpful if you could confirm this now.

If you are a Key Worker (any year group) and you wish your child to attend school, again I ask you to register your intention and inform us of the days your child will attend.

The school's completed Risk Assessment is available on the school website. Again this is based on a Local Authority model but it has been personalised for our school. In completing this Risk Assessment I have taken advice from our Health & Safety consultant and have been mindful of Trade Union advice and guidance but again must state to you that risks remain. Staff and Governors have been given the opportunity to contribute to the Risk Assessment to ensure that all hazards and controls to improve the health and safety of our children, families and workforce have been considered and incorporated.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and your families.

Assuring you of my best attention during these uncertain times. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Class Teacher, the school office or myself directly if you require any further information, help or assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Lennon

Head Teacher



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