



Daventry Rd, Southam, Warwickshire. CV47 1PS  
Tel: (01926) 812512 Fax: (01926) 812521  
[www.st-marys-southam.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-southam.warwickshire.sch.uk)

15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

On the 3rd September 2020, we look forward to welcoming all of our children back to school at St Mary's. The government have given us a booklet with which to guide us in our planning for opening in September. It may be worth you reading this, but I have filtered this information into the St. Mary's Risk Assessment, which will be on the website.

#### **DfE Guidance for full opening - schools** Published 2 July 2020

The government's advice to head teachers is that there cannot be a 'one-size-fits-all' approach. The government says that school leaders are best placed to understand the needs of their schools and communities. They trust head teachers to make informed judgments about how to balance delivering a broad and balanced curriculum with the measures needed to manage risk. Therefore, it is on this basis, that I have tailored the protective measures to fit our school. The main thread that runs through all of the measures is to minimise the number of contacts children have in the school day.

The following controls will be paramount:

- A requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- A robust hand and respiratory hygiene routine
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements
- Active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- Formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible

There is now a realisation that social distancing between children will be difficult and not possible for younger children. However, the government have refocused on teachers being 2m from children- again this will not happen all the time, but where possible it will.

Therefore, each class will be in a bubble taught by the teacher and the same teaching assistant. The children in the bubble will have a set place in class and though the start of the lesson will begin in the same room, when a teaching assistant is available some children will then work in another room. This room will be above them in KS2 or near them in KS1 and EYFS, as in the nest. This will allow for more spacing out. There will be some limited movement between bubbles but the adult will stay 2 metres away or will be working outside, as with the PE coach, Dan Fagan. The children will sit next to each other in pairs or individually and will face the teacher. There will be no assemblies, only collective worship in bubbles.





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Wraparound care can take place once we have established the new routines in the classroom. I need a teacher and teaching assistant(s) in the classroom all day at the start of the year. As you will know we have a google form on the school website for you to respond to what need you have for before and after school provision. The link is below:

<https://forms.gle/4JX6Dufj4GzhqQms8>

### Staggered timings

It is still the case that the school day needs to be staggered. To this end, the following adjustments will be made to the start and end of the school day:

Robins (Reception/Nursery) -9.10am Enter school through front Reception

Goldfinches(Year 1/2) –8.55am Enter school through front Reception

Kingfishers(Year 3/4 )- 9.10 am Enter through green side gate into courtyard playground

Skylarks (Year 5/6 ) – 8.55am Enter through green side gate into courtyard playground

The Head teacher will meet KS2 children at the green side gate in the morning so that parents do not need to come into the playground. In the afternoon, parents can come in through this green gate to pick up their children from the courtyard playground. KS1 and EYFS will be picked up from the front Reception (or if you have siblings in different Key Stages, you can collect them together at the front Reception.)

At the end of the day, the following timings will apply for pick up:

Robins(Year R & N) – 3.20pm

Goldfinches(Year 1/2 )- 3.10pm

Kingfishers( Year 3/4 )- 3.20pm

Skylarks( Year 5/6 )- 3.10pm

Break times and lunch times will also be staggered.

### Additional considerations

I would like to ask that all children from year 1 to 6 please bring an **empty pencil case** to school, on the first day, so that we can keep it in school and school will fill it with the contents it needs. The children will





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then be expected to use these and not to share resources. Children must only bring the essentials to school: **lunch boxes, hats, coats, books and bags to carry them in.**

Children are asked to come wearing St. Mary's Sports kit to school on the following days:

Robins- All day Monday

Goldfinches- All day Friday

Kingfishers-All day Thursday

Skylarks –All day Thursday

Please can children wear (over their sport kit) jogging bottoms and a school jumper or jogging top- these must be muted colours, navy, black or grey. They will not be allowed to wear football strips or equivalent and if they were to do so, parents would be rung to bring in suitable kit.

### Attendance

It needs to be noted that a parent now has a duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at school, if the child is of compulsory school age. The government have made it clear that there will be sanctions, including fixed penalty notices. Here at St. Mary's, we prefer to work with you so that you feel that you are confident in sending your child to school. Do not hesitate to ring if you have any concerns you need to talk about, especially if they have particular medical conditions.

Finally, I will ask that no pupils, staff or any adults come into school if they have Coronavirus (COVID 19) symptoms. If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new continuous cough or a temperature, or a loss of taste or smell, they will be sent home immediately and advised to self-isolate for 7 days and should arrange to have a test. Other members of their household should self- isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

Once September comes, we will revert to class teaching of a broad and balanced curriculum. We will at the same time, take care of your child's wellbeing and we will ease them into new routines and learning. We look forward to all being back together in September in school.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Price





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