



St Agnes C of E (V.A) Primary School

Knolls Lane, Lees, Oldham, OL4 5RU

Tel : 0161 770 5970

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Headteacher : Miss S Butterworth

New School Year Arrangements From Monday 6th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well. We are all really looking forward to the children returning to school on Monday. Following the government announcement about the lifting of restrictions, I am writing to let you know that it is our intention, from Monday 6th September 2021, to start to return to our normal routines in school, as much as we possibly can. I am sure that this is welcome news, following another very challenging year for schools, children and families.

As always, the safety and wellbeing of our children, families and staff members will continue to be a priority and measures such as frequent handwashing, respiratory hygiene, enhanced cleaning and plenty of ventilation in classrooms will still be in place in line with government guidance. However, we will no longer operate in bubbles and children will be able to mix as normal. School staff will continue to be tested twice each week. We recognise that some children / families may still feel anxious about COVID-19, but please rest assured that school staff are ready to support children and help them settle back in to a more normal routine.

As you may already be aware, NHS test and trace will be taking over contact tracing responsibilities in schools. From 16th August onwards, contacts of a positive case, who are aged under 18 or who have received both doses of the vaccination, will no longer be required to self-isolate. Instead, children and adults will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace (if they are specifically identified by the positive case), informed they have been in close contact and advised to have a PCR test. Only positive cases will need to isolate for ten days, rather than whole class bubbles.

In preparation for Monday, please read the following information carefully.

1. Staggered drop-off and pick-up times will stop and normal school opening times will resume. All pupils should arrive and be ready to line up with their classes when the morning bell goes at 8:45am. School will end at 3:15pm. Parents should avoid lingering on the school site at these times please. School gates will be locked promptly at 9.00am. Please ensure that your child arrives at school on time. After months of staggered starts, it will be important that all children get back into this routine from day one of the new term.
2. Attendance – school attendance is mandatory and the usual rules on school attendance will continue to apply. Holidays in term time will not be authorised and should be booked in accordance with the school holiday pattern please.
3. Absences – please notify the school office before 9am of all absences and on each day of absence, stating the reason why your child is not in school.
4. Full school uniform should be worn every day, in line with our uniform expectations, PE kits can be worn to school on your child's PE days but must follow the PE uniform.
5. School dinners – will continue as normal. Children that usually bring a packed lunch from home should continue to do so. Lunchtimes will no longer be staggered and normal lunchtime routines will resume.
6. Illness – as always we would not expect any parent to send their child to school if they are unwell. Any child that falls ill at school or has possible COVID-19 symptoms will immediately be sent home. Please visit www.nhs.uk for more information.
7. Where a child may have to self-isolate, remote learning activities will be set by your child's class teacher. This work should be brought into school when your child returns.
8. School visits and extra-curricular clubs will resume/continue in the Autumn Term.





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All of the above arrangements are dependent on infection rates over the summer and we will continue to act on advice from the Public Health Team. If, at any point, we need to make any changes to our plans and/or need to reinstate any measures (such as working in bubbles), we will do our best to communicate this to you as soon as possible. For more details around how we will manage COVID and an outbreak of cases our COVID Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plan can be found on the school website.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us by telephoning the school office.

Yours sincerely

Miss S Butterworth
Headteacher

