



Westhoughton Cluster

Eatock, St Andrew's, St Bartholomew's, St George's, St James', St Thomas,
Sacred Heart, The Gates, Washacre

GOVERNING BOARD SACRED HEART RC PRIMARY SCHOOL & HEART TSA



Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Survey for parents of Westhoughton Cluster Primary Schools

As you may know, the government is currently intending that schools continue looking after Key Worker and Vulnerable children as well as reopening from Monday 1st June at the earliest for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.

This presents a great challenge for schools. We are currently undertaking a comprehensive risk assessment and this survey (attached) is part of this process. If you do decide to send your child into school, there will be a number of measures in place to try and keep your child as safe as possible; however, we would like you to understand that schools can only minimise and not completely eradicate the risk presented by Covid-19.

A range of approaches and actions will be employed across all schools to minimise the spread of the virus. These include:

- avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
- frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices
- regular cleaning of settings

School will not be operating as usual – there will be changes, the details of which will be shared with you in due course. We will be following government guidance on how to widen the number of children attending school. This guidance, for parents, can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

In particular please consider the following statement:

Children and young people who live in a household with someone who is [extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding](#) (ie: long-term, mild to moderate respiratory diseases, such as asthma) should only attend if stringent social distancing can be adhered.

Some of the changes may include:

- Children attending school on a rota system and part-time timetables.
- Start and finish times will be staggered.
- Children in assigned groups. This group will then stay together throughout each day creating a bubble. Groups will not mix at any point during the school day.
- School meals will be eaten in your child's allocated classroom.

- No before or after school provision due to the limitations placed on children mixing between groups.
- A very different look and feel to the curriculum, as there are limitations to what we can deliver whilst keeping protective measures in place.
- Reconfigured classrooms with older children having their own stationery, equipment and an allocated desk.

or

- Reconfigured classrooms with younger children having limited access to EYFS resources and equipment

Government guidance acknowledges that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. Considering this, please be aware that, whilst endeavouring to enforce children to social distance, we cannot make this happen or guarantee that this will happen 100% of the time.

There is also the option for you to keep your child at home should you not be comfortable with your child attending school; the government have stated that parents will not be fined for non-attendance at this time. Home learning activities will continue to be set.

If your intention is for your child to return to school, please e-mail the school office (office@sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk) by 9am on Tuesday 19th May 2020 at the very latest so that school is able to consider allocating a place for your child.

Yours sincerely,



Kathleen Morris
Chair of Governors



Martin Johnson
Executive Headteacher