



Sacred Heart RC Primary School

WESTHOUGHTON

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Executive Headteacher: Mr M Johnson | Deputy Headteacher: Miss S Middleton

The Sacred Heart Standard

September 2020

28th September 2020

Dear Parents & families,

SEPTEMBER 2020

As we begin the new school year, with our Marian Term, we are excited by the opportunities that face us to live out our purpose statement to *shine as we come, talk, work, walk & pray together...* Catholic schools are challenged to do things differently: we make Christ known, to transform the person, Spirit fuelled, to transform society. We do this through education.



WELCOME:

We welcome back all our children and their families and all those new to our school community – all those starting with us in Reception or other classes, and their families. Our new children have settled in very well and are engaged with their learning.

Last term we welcomed Miss Taylor-Wilson who leads our Early Years provision. We also welcome new teachers, Mr Robinson & Miss Brown, who teach Y4 & Y5; Miss Evans & Miss Hyde-Wilkins who are supporting learning; Mr Makar & Miss Malji who are supporting our Creative Club. Our PGCE initial teacher training cohort are also settling into their lecture routine and home schools across our network.

A full staff list is available on our school website at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/meet-the-team/>

Our key message for the year is **'LOVE ONE ANOTHER'** and roots us in the purpose of Catholic schools: to make Christ known for today, to fuel us up with Spirit, for the transformation of society (starting here as the Gospel in the corridors, classrooms, playground and in our homes and communities). This has been reinforced in the bespoke mural painted onto our workshop wall by [Akse](#), the prominent Manchester street artist.



EARLY FEEDBACK: #BeKind

We are very impressed with all of the measures that have been put in place at school to keep everyone safe. We understand that it must be incredibly hard to manage a school with changing guidelines from the DfE and the Government...

My children have enjoyed returning to school and are enjoying their new years and teachers. Given that everything has changed, continues to change (often with overnight notice) the efforts and delivery of the school covid plan seems to have gone very well. Visibility of the SLT alongside other members of staff at the start and the end of the day is noted and appreciated.

Please can you pass on to the SLT that, although I don't know what happens in other classes, that my children's teachers have created learning environments that, within just a week, both our children are happy, stimulated and feel safe in. My thanks for creating such a place for them cannot be underestimated.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER



SCHOOL LEADERSHIP:

Mr Johnson is now back (from last year's secondment) for the equivalent of two days / week as Executive Headteacher, and also works the remainder of the week for the Diocesan Department for Education as CPDF/system support lead, and as Executive Leader for the St Teresa of Calcutta Roman Catholic Multi Academy Trust.

Miss Middleton, our established leader of standards & progress, takes up role as interim Deputy Headteacher. This is because Mrs Callow, our substantive deputy headteacher, has been seconded to support St Gregory's RC Academy.

Mr Gallagher continues to provide leadership within the school as our Associate Headteacher, with Mrs Furey continuing as Strategic Director of Teaching School and Mr Cregan as Assistant Headteacher responsible for SEND.

Mrs Cody & Mr Stubbs are co-Designated Safeguarding Leads, supported by deputy leads, Mrs Owen & Miss Butler.

As Mrs Owen has now moved to part-time working, Miss Butler now shares the role of School Business Manager.

We also express our thanks to our longstanding Chair of Governors, Mrs Morris, who has stepped down to become vice-chair, with Mrs Walker taking on the role of Chair.

COVID19 PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS:

It is three weeks since term began, and the restrictions that come with pandemic were introduced for this academic year. With some small changes as we have moved along, the measures in place to help us stay safe are now running smoothly.

It is with this in mind that we remind our community of the following:

- 🚫 When collecting your child, please stand on the stars, and do not congregate with others on the school site;
- 🚫 When exiting the yard, please do this with regard to social distancing, especially if passing those stood at stars collecting their children. The single gate exit points are to ensure distancing when moving out onto the pavements and help us monitor that no child leaves the site unaccompanied and without permission;
- 🚫 Please drive and park responsibly around the school site, being respectful to our neighbours;
- 🚫 Remember that dogs and other animals should not be brought onto our school site. It is also prohibited to smoke or vape within the school grounds.

Some changes due to take effect today, for those on timetable 2 (currently beginning at 8:50am) include an earlier finish at 3:30pm, meaning less waiting for those with children who also finish at the earlier time. To manage this within the constraints of our site, it is especially important to arrive as close to the exit time as possible; and for those collecting at 3:20pm, to move from the star as soon as you have collected your child, enabling the next group to stand at that space.

CLASS LETTERS:

Our teachers have worked hard not only to implement all the covid19 routines in their class and the school, but also to ensure that the provision in their class enables our children to experience the joy of learning in community. All teachers have written to families detailing important processes relevant to that class for the Autumn Term. If you have not received your letter, they are all uploaded to our website at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/class-and-office-updates/>

LEARNING:

Thank you to all who, under very challenging circumstances, engaged with our [home learning](#) routines during the enforced lockdown of the last academic year. Our children have returned to school ready to learn and keen to engage with learning across the curriculum. Over the coming weeks, in line with government expectation that all children are to have progress accelerated to close any gaps by the start of summer term 2021, pupils may be involved with catch-up lessons of some kind. This may be as part of their whole class, revisiting and consolidating key aspects of the curriculum from last year, or through additional phonics lessons. For some, this will be through working with Mr Stubbs who is working with individuals and groups to enable catch-up. Our curriculum areas are further detailed on our website at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/our-curriculum/> and <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/subjects/>

RSHE:

It is now a statutory requirement that Relationships, Sex & Health Education are taught in primary schools. Mrs Clarke is our leader of this area of learning, and will be writing to parents with details of the new programme. We have adopted the ['Life to the Full'](#) programme for Catholic schools, which is from the same provider as our Ten:Ten worship resources. This is also complimented in Y4,5 & 6 by citizenship based units entitled 'Speak Truth to Power', written by Mrs Furey for the Robert F Kennedy Foundation. These explore equality issues such as women's rights, race and sexuality – all reinforcing the Catholic identity of our school and the call to be activists for the transformation of society, where we see neighbour as brother/sister.

TEN:TEN PARENT NEWSLETTER:

This resource, supporting our class-based collective worship, is now available as an interactive newsletter at www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/ and is updated monthly.

The 'New Normal'

Going back to school after the summer holidays can feel like a very busy and often stressful time for many families. It's a time of new beginnings: new classrooms, new teachers, new lessons, new schools, new uniform...the list goes on. But this



year, school will feel even more different with a 'new normal' after the extended period of school closures. With new start times and new year group bubbles, there will be a lot of 'new' things for children and parents to get used to.

In September every year, we at Ten Ten take time to refocus on Jesus - the reason for doing what we do. Our resources for the start of term often invite children to consider Jesus' invitation for them to follow Him through everything known and unknown that the year will bring. This seems more pertinent than ever this year, and so for this newsletter, we share with you an imaginative meditation that children will experience in the first week back of term.

Click to play the recorded meditation, and then why not discuss it with your child: <https://vimeo.com/448834887>

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says: "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him...take up his cross and follow me." *Matthew 16: 24*

Children heard how Jesus will help us every step of the way and help us to carry our 'cross'. We don't have to carry an actual cross but it's like the bag in the meditation - we carry it on the path and when it gets too heavy, Jesus helps us.

Children learned that Jesus longs for us to follow Him, because He knows we will be happiest when we follow the path He lays out for us.

Space was made for children to consider the questions below, which you might like to discuss with them:

Will you follow Jesus this year? | Will you let Him help you and guide you?

Prayer: Dear Jesus, We don't know all that this year holds, but you do. Help us with our schoolwork and our friendships. Help us remember that you are with us in the good times and the bad. Amen.

HALL OF FAME:

Thank you to Bishop John and Fr Barry who helped us engage with Masses for the start of term via Church Services TV.

It is impossible for us to gather together as a whole school to celebrate our achievements, but we can do this, to some extent, by virtual means.

Therefore, each Friday, a member of each class group will enter our Hall of Fame in respect of an achievement that week.

Look out for postings on our social media page at <https://www.facebook.com/TheJourneyMatters/>

HOMEWORK:

All children have brought home a diary with login instructions for the key online learning sites we engage with. If you are experiencing any difficulty with these, please contact your child's teacher who will be able to help. Reading books should be issued at least every Monday; and should be returned on Friday to enter a weekend quarantine.

Our knowledge organisers linked to each curriculum area, with sticky learning quizzes to explore at home and in school are available on our website at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/subjects/> and <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/sticky-learning/>

REMOTE LEARNING VIA LEARNING PLATFORM - SELF-ISOLATION & BUBBLE CLOSURES:

We have taken advantage of the government's learning platform funding to introduce Google Classrooms to Sacred Heart. It is a requirement that schools make clear their online learning package to families by this week:

This means that if your child is forced to enter a period of covid19 related quarantine or self-isolation the following will happen:

1. Login to Google Classroom following the link from our website. The username and password is in their diary and they will have been shown how to do this in school.
2. Complete the 'Day 1' work that will be set by teachers. 'Day 1' work will be updated periodically (as some children may access this on the first day of more than one period of quarantine) but is an indicator to the teacher that your child is ready for further work to be set. Submitting this work, or messaging the teacher via the platform, will alert the teacher to then set and respond appropriately to learning until your child is able to return to school. It is possible that your child won't feel well enough on day one of their absence to complete this work, so day 1 means the first day they are able to access the online learning.
3. It is possible, depending on the number of pupils isolating, that teaching assistants or teachers may arrange a G-Meet using video-conferencing. The school's broadband bandwidth does not make it possible to stream live lessons and we have asked Bolton Schools ICT to urgently investigate the issues we have with connectivity when streaming via the school's internet.
4. Note that this level of support is concurrent with your child's teacher teaching their class, so will not be as detailed as if their whole class bubble closes.

In the event of a bubble closure, where a class or year group are forced to isolate:

1. The class teacher, or another member of staff, will publish work from Day 1 on the Google Classroom platform, as detailed above. Teachers will check pupil engagement with this, and provide feedback.
2. It is likely that G-Meet will be used for brief periods, and the teacher will make you aware of the schedule for this. In some instances, this may be for individuals or small groups who are being taught a new skill or who need additional support to grasp a concept.

Note that the above is for covid19 related absence or quarantine and is not expected where a child is off school feeling otherwise ill or for holiday related absence.



If you find any difficulty with any of the above or cannot find the work set, please contact school to speak to your child's class teacher. All our staff have received some initial training in using the platform, and this will continue to be developed. Please remember that this is new to all of us, and practise makes perfect!

We do understand that for some families, the logistics of their child being able to login to a computer with internet access is not possible or presents significant challenges. There is indication that government supplies of laptops may be accessible to some families, but we will need to see how this situation develops. If you are unable to access G-suite, please contact the school and we will endeavour to provide work under a different format.

COVID19 – WHEN TO ISOLATE:

If your child develops [#coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus) symptoms, here's what you need to do. Only book a test if you develop symptoms. This will help make sure people who need a test can get one. For more information visit: <http://nhs.uk/coronavirus>

If your child is unwell, but isn't displaying any of the three coronavirus symptoms, there's no need to book a test. After they've recovered, they can return straight back to school (DFE guidance).

Know Your Symptoms			
Covid-19	Flu	Cold	Allergies
- Fever - Dry Cough - Fatigue - Shortness of Breath	- Fever - Dry Cough - Runny Nose - Headache - Sore Throat - Muscle and Joint Pain	- Cough - Sore Throat - Aches and Pains - Watery Eyes - Sneezing - Runny or Stuffy Nose	- Sneezing - Coughing - Itchy Eyes - Runny or Stuffy Nose
Please check you all fit up to date information regarding Covid-19 symptoms			

If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell
But they don't have:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

These are not normally symptoms of coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial 111 or see your GP

If your child has:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

This could be a sign of coronavirus

Book a test

COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers			GREATER MANCHESTER DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY
What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...	
 ...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	• Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results	...when child's test comes back negative and symptom free for 48 hours	
 ...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	• Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Inform school immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days	...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.	
 ...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	• Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results	...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*	
 ...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	• Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days	...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days	

* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 ...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)	• Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) - even if they test negative during those 14 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too	...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days
 ...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine	• Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Provide information to school as per attendance policy Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed: • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days - even if they test negative during those 14 days	...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days
 ...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding	• Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team • Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again	...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again
 ...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	• Only people with symptoms* need to get a test • People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive	...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met

For further information:
gmhscp.contacttracing@nhs.net
gov.uk/backtoschool

LEARNING KITEMARKS:

Periodically, we review kitemarks, which give us external quality assurance of the curriculum development we undertake. Thanks to Mr Clarke for working on a new Geography kitemark:



Dear Daniel,

Congratulations! I am delighted to inform you that due to your hard work in assembling your application your school has successfully achieved the Primary Geography Quality Mark **Silver** level 2020. Your moderation feedback, which includes a detailed account of why you achieved the level specified is attached.

PGQM award's will be announced on the GA website and reported in the Spring 2021 issue of the GA magazine and as a member of the GA you will be able to show this to parents, staff and governors. A full list of schools that achieve the PGQM is also displayed at the annual GA Conference Awards Ceremony. Next year the conference is being held at the University of Surrey from Thursday 8 - Saturday 10 April 2021. All award winners will be invited to attend the Awards Presentation event on the Thursday evening to personally receive their certificate.

We sincerely hope that this award indicates a long and sustained relationship between your school and the Geographical Association and that you will continue your membership with the association.

Kind regards

Jon Cannell | GA Primary Curriculum Leader | The Geographical Association

TERM DATES:

Our term dates for this year are found at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/term-dates/>

Dates for 2021-22 academic year will be agreed at our Governing Board meeting later this half term and be issued to families immediately after this.

MASS:

Fr Lomax has installed Church Services TV hardware into the church, and is now streaming Mass via <https://www.churchservices.tv/westhoughton>. The schedule is updated regularly, and enables us to participate in the Mass in a safe way from our living room. The Parish facebook page is also regularly updated with useful links - <https://www.facebook.com/SHJWParish/>



COVID19 UPDATES:

We are following the Bolton COVID19 procedures, with any covid19 related notifications recorded and followed up by informing and following the advice of both the DFE /Public Health England hotline and that for Bolton Public Health/LA. A set of standard letters are provided which are edited with any update, for example where a member of staff or a pupil has tested positive for covid19. There have so far been two instances where letters have been issued. *We are advised by HR that it is not possible to give specific details of individuals, or to indicate if a member of staff is forced to isolate due to test and trace routines, however we will aim to let parents know if their child's class will have any long term alternative teaching arrangements. From this week, the office will text parents to let them know this.* Any authorised visitor to the site must complete the relevant form, detailing their contacts and contact details in order to support our Test and Trace capabilities. We also have a QR code available to scan to the NHS covid19 app for such visitors. The NHS COVID-19 app is now available to the

public in England and Wales. Download today from:

Apple App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/id1520427663>

Google Play: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details...>

If more people use the app and self-isolate when alerted, we can keep each other safe and stop infection rates rising.

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING: A virtual event is being planned to inform those wishing to find out more about a school place at Sacred Heart next year. Our new head pupils and Team:Change will be involved in producing this. We are also exploring the best way to hold our parent/teacher/pupil evening replacement in a covid19 safe way and will inform you of these arrangements in due course.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS:

Virtual open events are published on the websites and information channels for all our partner secondary schools. More information on secondary school places can be found at <https://www.bolton.gov.uk/admissions/secondary-school-places>



WEEKLY UPDATES:

The office will produce the weekly **Sacred Heart Herald** update, issuing this by website link both emailed to parents and sent via text message. If you have not been receiving text messages or emails, please contact the office with your current details. It is important that these details are up to date as any covid19 alert letters will be issued via this method and may require immediate response, for example if a bubble closes on the advice of Public Health.

The weekly **Herald** update will contain:

- Links to any letters or updates issued during the past week, especially where response is needed (eg. Secondary admissions, Flu vaccine information etc.);
- Diary dates to remember – eg the date of your child's class virtual assembly (6M & 5D have premiered theirs so far);
- Attendance updates;
- School meals and wraparound care updates and charges;
- Celebration of any achievements for both pupils and the school.

AND FINALLY: We extend our congratulations and very best wishes to Mrs Flood (*Miss Platt*), who was married over the summer break; and to Mr & Mrs Adam who welcomed their new son, Zeke, on 19th June.

For other daily class updates, keep an eye on our social media at <https://www.facebook.com/TheJourneyMatters/>

We thank you for your continued support as we walk together during these difficult times.

M Johnson

Mr M Johnson
Executive Headteacher

S Middleton

Miss S Middleton
Deputy Headteacher

We seldom notice how each day is a holy place where the eucharist of the ordinary happens, transforming our broken fragments into an eternal continuity that keeps us.

Somewhere in us a dignity presides that is more gracious than the smallness that fuels us with fear and force, a dignity that trusts the form a day takes.

So, at the end of this day, we will give thanks for being betrothed to the unknown and for the secret work through which the mind of the day and wisdom of the soul become one.

JOHN O'DONOHUE