



## ST CHARLES'

VC ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have dearly missed seeing the children and our wider school community! We look forward to a time when we can all be together again. However, making this happen will need to be a slow and carefully managed process...

You will have received a letter from Peter Fearnley (Chair of Directors), in which he outlined our gradual, phased and partial expansion, allowing for Y1 and Foundation stage to return to St Cuthbert's Trust's schools. In this letter, I have sought to give you some more information about what the provision will look like, specifically at St Charles's.

As you may be aware, for the last ten weeks, we have remained open for identified key worker children through our provision. This will remain open for eligible families to attend, however, there will be some changes which are detailed in the relevant section below.

It is extremely important during this process that we minimise the risk and support the safety of pupils, their families and our staff. Although rigorous planning and risk management has taken place to keep your child safe; social distancing with children of this age is almost impossible. Unfortunately, we will not be able to eliminate all the risks of COVID-19 but we have worked hard to create plans which will try and lower these risks.

If you have chosen for your child to return to school and completed the parent survey, we want to make sure that they are as happy as possible. However, it will look and run very differently to what they have experienced before. Staff are committed to ensuring our pupils are put at ease and all will prioritise the supporting of their safety and wellbeing.

### **Key worker and identified children group:**

- This will continue as previously, we are currently finalising plans and will confirm entrance and exit routes and timings later this week.
- All children will have their temperature taken on arrival to school and Parents/carers will be asked to take children with a high temperature home again.

### **Groups for Y1 and Foundation Stage:**

- The year groups will be split into small groups (sometimes referred to as 'bubbles')
- Once pupils have been allocated to a group, they will not be able to move to another group
- As we understand that children of this age group will not maintain social-distancing, we have adapted the environment and routines to support good health and hygiene practices.
- All children will have their temperature taken on arrival to school and Parents/carers will be asked to take children with a high temperature home again
- The classroom and resources will have been adapted to ensure they can be cleaned daily. All soft furnishings and un-necessary furniture will have been removed.
- School will continue to promote a positive learning environment for their development and wellbeing.
- The member/s of staff working with this group will stay the same. The member/s of staff working with this group will only work with their allocated group and not have contact with other groups.
- Plastic boxes will be provided for pupils to store their coats, bags and packed lunches.
- Pupils will also have storage for individual stationary to discourage sharing of resources
- All boxes will be cleaned at the end of each day.

- A cleaner will be on site at all times to help ensure regular cleaning of the environment e.g. toilets, handrails, door handles
- Start of the day, end of the day, lunch-time and breaks will all be staggered so that groups do not mix with each other
- Timings for these are to be confirmed with individual parents later this week
- Pupils will be able to bring a packed lunch or select to have a school dinner (no hot meals will be available) they will be 'Grab Bags' (school packed lunch)
- Lunches will be eaten in the classroom – to eliminate the risks of groups mixing
- Lunch will be supervised by an adult/s who are allocated to their group (not any other group/s)
- Outside play will be in an allocated area and they will be able to play with children from their own group. Outdoor play equipment will be allocated to the group and cleaned daily.
- We ask that only one adult accompany child/ren from each household when dropping off and collecting from school.
- There will be clear procedures for pick up and drop off routines, entering and exiting through different school gates, with clear markings to support social distancing (details to follow)
- Swift action will be taken in the event of staff members, children or parents displaying symptoms as per the government guidelines.
- Plans will be constantly reviewed and adapted to reflect the ever-changing climate and ensure the safety and wellbeing of our school community

#### Communication:

- Sadly, due to current guidance around social distancing, if you wish to speak to a member of staff, we cannot invite you into school but would encourage you to call the office: 01482 326610 / email: [admin@stchull.org](mailto:admin@stchull.org)
- Safeguarding and supporting the wellbeing of our pupils remains our key priority. Please do not hesitate to contact Miss Wilson (the designated safeguarding lead), Mrs Siedle, Mr Foster or Mrs Woodmansey with any concerns / requests for support.
- Please ensure the school has your up to date contact details: address, telephone number and email.

#### Provision for Y2-6:

- Teachers will continue to provide learning work via Seesaw.
- Your child/ren will continue to receive a weekly phone call from a member of staff.

Finally, we thank you all for your ongoing support during this difficult time. We look forward to welcoming some pupils back to school over the next few weeks.

Kind regards

*K.M.Siedle*

Mrs K Siedle  
Executive Headteacher

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Mrs Karen Siedle

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