

# ST MARK'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Headteacher: Ms Laura Kelsey BA (Hons), PGCE, CEPQH**

Monday, July 19, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the summer holidays, my thoughts turn to September so I wanted to write to you to explain what the new school year will look like.

We have had guidance from the DfE that bubbles can end and that children and double vaccinated adults will not have to self-isolate if they are in close contact with a positive Covid case. If anyone has symptoms of Covid or tests positive on a Lateral flow or PCR test, they will still have to isolate for 10 days. This is the current guidance and I will be keeping a close eye in case this changes over the summer but at the moment it means we can plan for things to go back to "normal" for the new school year.

I realise that some of our families and children have never experienced "normal" school running at St. Mark's so I thought I would outline what that looks like.

In the morning, the school gate will be opened at 8:45 - 8:55am to allow children to come into school. Adults are welcome to come on to the playground to drop their child/ren off and say goodbye at this time and I will be on the gate to supervise and for any questions.

We will be mixing children at break and lunchtimes again so that the lovely family atmosphere of St. Mark's can flourish once more. There will be a rota for football and the trim trail. Children will bring PE kits in to school on a Monday and take them home again on a Friday (if they need washing) to allow for greater flexibility of the school timetable. We did consider whether to continue children wearing their kit into school on PE days as we know a lot of parents liked this but it makes it very difficult when it rains as there is only one space in the school for indoor PE which is sometimes used for other lessons like music etc. or when other events come up on class PE days.

Please remember children moving from KS1 to KS2 (Year 2 up to Year 3) if they wish to have a hot school lunch they will be required to order and pay for this via Chartwells. <https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/CSS/WestSussex/UploadedImages/OrderingMealsGuide.pdf>

At the end of the day, the gate will open at 3:15pm for adults to come on to the playground and collect their children. The teachers bring the children out and let them go when they see their adults. This is also a good chance to catch your child's teacher for a chat if you need to ask a quick question. Bluebell children will be collected from outside their class area. Laurel children are allowed to walk out of school on their own with written permission so if you would like your child to do this, please write to the school office.

Thank you to those who filled in our survey about wraparound care. We will run Sunrise and Sunset club every day from 7:30am until 5pm to begin with as we only had one request for one day until 6pm. If this changes, please let the school office know and we can reconsider opening until 6pm again.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Kelsey  
Headteacher

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