



Established in 1856

St Peter's Church of England (VC) Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Jim Holditch

Wednesday 1st September 2021

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school tomorrow! For their first day back, the teachers will be on the sloping playground at 8.30am, waiting for them to arrive. The children will line up in their classes and the teachers will walk them to their new classrooms at 8.40 once the gates close. On Friday, the children will walk to their classrooms themselves without being met by their teachers, as was normal in the days before Covid!

Once the school gate is opened at the end of the day, parents in Year 1 are asked to walk round to wait outside the Year 1 classroom door. Miss Bowman will release the children to you from there. Any siblings can walk round to meet you there, or wait for you to walk back through the sloping playground, as you please.

Year 2 parents can walk up to the flat playground and wait for their children to be released to them from the Year 2 classroom door.

Parents of KS2 children should wait on the sloping playground as their children will leave their classrooms and walk out to find parents there.

If parents of the older children wish them to walk home alone, please email the school office and let us know, as we won't allow children to leave the site unaccompanied unless we have received your direction to do so. I will be on the gate at the beginning and end of the school day, just as was the case in the past.

A parent contacted me to question my insistence on masks being worn by parents when you come onto the school site. I quite realise that restrictions are being eased in our society. However, whilst we are moving back to a more normal routine at school, with no staggered start or end to the day etc, and a general move towards normal procedures in the classroom, I am trying to be sensible whilst we judge how prevalent the virus remains.

We have one small gate at our school, and unless we continue to use Coronation Gardens as an entrance, I have no way of providing a safe one way system for entry and egress. On top of that, the sloping playground is a comparatively small space for so many of you to congregate.



I appreciate that many people dislike wearing masks. I am extremely asthmatic and always have to take my inhaler after wearing a mask for even a short period. I found it particularly difficult to wear one during those brief weeks of hot weather at the end of term. However, my priority has always been to take whatever steps are required to maintain the safety of our school community. I have no idea whether having you all gathered together every day will pose an increased risk of transmission, and hence I must insist that at the beginning and end of the day, all of you who come onto the site continue to wear a mask for the 5-10 minutes required please. If you have a medical condition which precludes you from doing so, please email in and let us know. But I will ask that anyone who simply doesn't want to wear a mask, to remain outside the school gates and your child can walk across to you.

Best wishes

Jim Holditch