**Holy Cross Catholic Primary School**

 *‘Loving and learning together in faith*



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Headteacher: Mrs Clare Higgins

 12th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all really looking forward to welcoming the children back in September. We have all learnt over the last few months how different the ‘times’ we are currently living in are. It has been something we could never have imagined happening and as everything is so ‘different’ for us all we ask, is that you continue to be patient and understanding with staff in school as we are all encountering these new rules and routines for the first time.

We have made some changes to the routes that parents/carers and children will use. It is vitally important that you please follow the instructions below and comply with what is stated in this letter. If we are to keep everyone in our community safe, we all have to do the right thing in the best interests of everyone.

**Please do not arrive before the allocated time of drop off and collection as this will impact on the safety of other parents and children**. When arriving at school, only one adult should bring a child. Please adhere to social distancing and keep a safe distance from other parents/carers and children. Please DO NOT congregate at the school gate, in the playground or in the staff car park. Once you have dropped your child off or collected them, please vacate the school grounds. There will be plenty of room for everyone if we all do this.

**If you have children in both key stages, please drop off and collect any EYFS/KS1 children first and then exit the yellow or red route and then enter the blue route to drop off or collect any children in KS2.**

**If you need to speak to your child’s teacher, please leave a message for them at the school office. Due to the current health and safety measures in place, parents and carers will not be able to enter the school building with their children.**

A map of the school grounds and the designated routes are attached to this letter.

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| **Year Group** | **Drop off Time** | **Collection Time** | **Route** | **Directions** |
| **F1** | **8:55am** | **12:00pm** | **Yellow** | Parents and children will enter via the pedestrian gate by the Year Six classroom (this will be signposted) and then follow the **yellow route** signs onto the upper playground. Children and parents will then line up on socially distanced markers on the slope (indicated on the map) At the end of the morning session parents and carers will collect the children from the Hoylake Road gates as usual. There will be a one-way system in place on the path to ensure social distancing. |
| **F2, Y1 & Y2** | **8:55** | **3:00pm** | **Red** | Parents and children will enter via the pedestrian gate by the Year Six classroom (this will be signposted) and then follow the **red route** signs onto the upper playground. Parents will follow the one-way system around and say goodbye to their children who will then go to their year group line where their class teacher will be waiting for them. The children will be brought out onto the upper playground at 3:00pm to their year group lines to be collected by parents. As soon as you have collected your child please follow the one-way system (red route) as you leave the school grounds. |
| **KS2** | **9:00am** | **3:05pm** | **Blue** | Parents and children will enter via the pedestrian gate by the car park (this will be signposted and the car park will be closed to ensure the safety of all) and then follow the **blue route** signs to the gate of the lower playground. Parents will follow the one-way system around and say goodbye to their children who will then go to their year group line where their class teacher will be waiting for them. The children will be brought out onto the lower playground at 3:00pm to their year group lines to be collected by parents. As soon as you have collected your child please follow the one-way system (red route) as you leave the school grounds. Children in years 5 and 6 who will walk home without parents will be dismissed by the class teacher. Please contact the school office to leave a message for your child’s teacher if your child is going to walk home without an adult. **(Years 5 and 6 only)**  |

I have included a reminder of what children can bring into school, these measures are in place to minimise the risk.

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| --- | --- |
| **Allowed to bring into school** | **Unable to bring into school** |
| Coats, sun hats, winter hats, gloves etc  | PE bag and kit (children will come into school wearing their PE Kits (tracksuit bottoms when the weather is cold) |
| Named water bottles (these will come home each night to be cleaned thoroughly) | Pencil cases |
| Inhalers/ medication (Please hand this into the school office) | Toys |
| Lunch boxes | Personal reading books from home (children will take home reading books and library books from school that have been quarantined for 48 hours) |

I am sure for some parents/carers and children the idea of returning to school may be causing some anxieties and worries but what our bubbles and summer school sessions have shown us, is that our children are resilient and quickly adapt to the new ‘norm’. Children are usually far more resilient than us as adults!

As a staff we promise to greet everyone with the same happy smiles and warm welcome we always give – we are very much looking forward to it!

I would like to thank you all for your wonderful support and kind messages over these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Clare Higgins

Headteacher