



St Michael's CE Junior School

Headteacher welcome

It has been lovely to see the children back in school and settling in routines so quickly. I have appreciated being able to say good morning to many of you as you have dropped off your children. I would also like to thank the staff for making me feel so welcome.

Latest Covid- 19 School Guidance

The latest COVID guidance means that we have been able to get back to a more normal routine in school but we are still mindful that the virus remains with us and, as such, we have a clear risk assessment in place as well as an Outbreak Management Plan should it be needed.

If your child has been officially classed as, 'extremely clinically vulnerable' by a medical professional, please could you inform the school office as they may require their own individual risk assessment should cases in the local area rise.

The control measures that the whole school community needs to be following are:-

- No child or adult must come to school if they have any illness or Covid-19 symptoms
- Regular hand-washing
- Ensuring good respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it)
- Keeping spaces ventilated
- Regular cleaning, especially of frequently touched surfaces

Schools are no longer involved in contact tracing – this will be done by NHS Test and Trace. If pupils test positive, parents will be informed by Test and Trace that they need to isolate. However, those individuals that are identified as contacts will not have to self-isolate any more. Instead, NHS Test and Trace will work with the family of the pupil to identify their close contacts and they will be contacted and asked to take a PCR test. Contacts are not required to self-isolate anymore and therefore must attend school. The only

reason a child should isolate is if they have received a positive Covid-19 test or if they are unwell / have Covid-19 symptoms.

End of day collection

In order to help ease the congestion at the end of school day, we have slightly amended the exit doors classes will use to leave the school building.

All classes exit doors will remain the same other than Year 6 Columbus Class and Year 4 Hawking Class. These exit doors will now be as follows and are shown on the school map attached:

Hawking	Library door (the door to the right of where they have been exiting)
Columbus	Middle door to playground (to the left of where they have been exiting)

Gates

Please note our gates do not open until 3.10pm in the afternoon for end of day collection. This is to ensure the health and safety of all our pupils and to avoid disruption to lessons such as outdoor games. We appreciate the challenge this may cause those of you with children attending the Infant school.

Pencil cases / stationery equipment

A gentle reminder that children should not be bringing in pencil cases or any stationery equipment. The school will provide the necessary materials needed throughout the school day.

Uniform

Please can you ensure that children are conforming to the school expectations, including the use of appropriate school shoes. PE kits must also be brought in on Mondays and should remain in school throughout the week, going home on the Friday for washing.

Inspired by Him, we serve the community of St Michael's by creating an inclusive learning culture where all differences are respected, where courage is shown to face and overcome adversity, and resilience is embedded in our journey to success so we can be the very best we can be.

Respect – Courage – Resilience



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Coats

Please remember that the weather is changeable at this time of year so the children should all be prepared for the rain – coats are **essential** please in school, as we go out in all weathers!

Welcome to our school library

We are thrilled to announce that our school library will be opening from Monday 20th September. In school, each class will have a slot in their weekly timetable to visit the library. In the initial two weeks of opening, the children will learn how to use the library independently, searching for books both for pleasure and for learning. There will be plenty of time to enjoy reading books, both to themselves, and with each other, as well as listening to stories read by their teacher. From October, children will also be able to use these dedicated library slots to choose a book from the library to read at school and at home. We will have Year 6 Junior librarians, who will help to look after the library, train library monitors in our Year 3, 4 and 5 classes and help other children to be inspired to read widely. Thanks to our partnership with the Hampshire School Library Service, we have a fantastic range of books on our shelves, and we are certain that every child will be able to find something new and engaging to read.

From Monday 20th September, the library will be open **every Monday from 8.20am to 8.35am before school and 3.35pm to 4.30pm after school** so that children and parents can choose and change books together. Mrs Carpenter, will be there to assist children and parents in searching and choosing books. We are really looking forward to opening our library doors to parents and children again.

Children will also be able to access our school E-Library service, and we will be sending further details home about this next week.

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