



SJF RECONNECTION PLAN

SEPTEMBER 2021

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HEADTEACHER'S INTRODUCTION

Everyone at St John Fisher looks forward to welcoming back all our children and their families for the beginning of the new 2021/2022 academic year, and especially those joining us for the very first time in FS2.

Our happy school is such a special and vibrant place and we are all feeling really positive about the year ahead, and excited by the opportunities that will hopefully follow the relaxation of restrictions. This means that we will be able to operate in more familiar ways and do more of the things we used to do pre-pandemic.

However, there are still many risks and unknowns that we need to remain alert to. So much can change quickly with little or no warning, and this is reflected in the guidance that had been issued right up to the last moment. We know that there were significant spikes in Scotland when the children returned in August, and the government and public health authorities are watching the situation in Leicestershire closely, where schools returned early, to see what happens. They may revise the guidance already issued if things do not go well.

Whilst we are all positive and excited, it is important that we are careful. Our plan is cautious but you will see that some of the COVID-secure measures introduced after March 2020 have been relaxed or removed altogether.

The purpose of this document is to set our plan for September, outlining the ways we will adapt whilst the COVID-19 virus remains a continuing threat. In sharing the plan, it is important to add that as the guidance and instruction from government is being updated constantly, and all or part of it might be subject to change at any point in the future, for example, if the national picture changes or if there is a more local outbreak or even a cluster positive tests results in our school.

The government and Chief Medical Officer have said that schools are much safer if there is a good plan in place and all members of that community stick to the guidance when they are in school *and* at home. We know that we have a good plan and an ongoing focus on keeping school clean and hygienic. We will continue to do all we can but we will only be able to stay open if everyone else supports our plan and remembers that the COVID-19 virus has not gone away.

We will therefore continue to rely on everyone playing their parts and sticking to the plan in order to keep themselves and others safe.

I very much look forward to catching up with all of you. If you have any questions or need any help and support please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you.



KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

All schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires us to assess risks fully (based on the best advice and guidance available) and then to put in place proportionate control measures. In order to be a COVID-secure school our control measures include:

- ✓ a requirement that those who are ill stay at home
- ✓ robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- ✓ good ventilation
- ✓ enhanced cleaning arrangements
- ✓ engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- ✓ engagement with the local authority and local public health services
- ✓ formal consideration of how to limit unnecessary contacts and maximise social distancing where appropriate between those in school, and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

Prevention:

- minimise contact with individuals who are unwell
- clean hands thoroughly and more often than usual
- ensure good respiratory hygiene - 'catch it, bin it, kill it'
- enhanced cleaning of school and resources
- minimised contact between individuals with social distancing wherever possible
- the wearing of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when necessary

Respond to infection:

- engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- liaise with Sheffield public health services
- manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst members of the school community
- contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

BUBBLES, CLASSES & STAFFING

The requirements for bubbles and keeping groups of children separate have now been removed. This means that the children in different classes will be able to mix again in and around school e.g. at break times. Face-to-face assemblies and hymn practises will therefore resume and we will again be allowed to attend church and sing too!

Though previous social distancing rules did not apply to children/staff operating *within* class bubbles, they did outside of these class bubbles. This requirement has also now been removed meaning that staff will now be able to work with children across school.



ATTENDANCE & FIRST DAYS

Attendance is Mandatory

From Monday 6th September for children in Years 1-6 and from Tuesday 7th September for children in FS2, attendance is mandatory. The government position remains this:

- parents have a duty to ensure that their children attend school regularly at the school where their children are registered as a pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;
- Schools have the responsibility to record attendance and follow up all absences;
- Schools must take appropriate steps where attendance is an issue, including reporting families and using the available sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, in line with the local authority's Codes of Conduct



HM Government

Any parents concerned about their children returning to school should contact us immediately so that we can answer questions and offer reassurances.

Critically Extremely Vulnerable Pupils

If you have been told that your child is critically extremely vulnerable, or you believe them to be, please contact us immediately (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org), thank you.

Foundation Stage 2 (FS2)

Our new starters will have a staggered start and the focus of the first few days and weeks will be to help each of them to settle and get used to school life in terms of their classroom, the building, the staff, routines and expectations. Once baseline assessments have been carried out the children will follow the new framework for learning and development in FS2 with further work being done to understand the needs of those identified as perhaps requiring additional support. There will also be a huge focus on wellbeing during this time.

Years 1-6

For the first few days the children in Years 1 to 6 will spend time reconnecting with school and getting used to their new classrooms and staff. As with FS2, there will continue to be a huge focus on wellbeing during the first few days specifically, to support them all to settle back in. The children will be encouraged to talk about their feelings, especially if they are anxious, and this will be done in ways that suit them, e.g. within class, small groups or on a one-to-one basis – and always with an emotionally available adult whom they trust.

Foundation Stage 2 (FS2)

| | Entry to School from | School Day |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Tuesday 7th September 2021 | Gates open at 8.45am | 8.55am – 11.00am |
| Wednesday 8th September 2021 | Gates open at 8.45am | 8.55am – 11.00am |
| Thursday 10th September 2020 | Gates open at 8.45am | 8.55am – 1.30pm |
| Friday 11th September 2021 | Gates open at 8.45am | 8.55am – 3.20pm |

Years 1 and 2

| | Entry to School from | School Day |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|
| Monday 6th September 2021 | Gates open at 8.45am | 8.55am – 3.20pm |

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

| | Entry to School from | School Day |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|
| Monday 6th September 2021 | Gates open at 8.45am | 8.55am – 3.30pm |



BEFORE LEAVING HOME IN THE MORNING

Please continue to check for any of the following symptoms:

- ✓ a high temperature
- ✓ a new, continuous cough
- ✓ a loss of, or change to the sense of smell or taste

If any of these symptoms are evident, **do not** send your children to school. It is possible that these are symptoms of the COVID-19 virus. Please call us **0114 2485009** or email us via the main school email address (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org) so that we can advise you.

Please note that you should also continue to contact us if anyone else in your household is displaying symptoms and your children appear to be well because children can be infectious without displaying symptoms.

KEY ROUTINES

Though the risk to children and staff *in* school is low because of all the measures that are in place, the risk is reported to be much higher when adults gather on to the school grounds and mix with one another at the beginning and end of the school day. It is for this reason that we will continue with the following:

- ✓ only **ONE** adult to drop off and pick up children
- ✓ staggered finish times to help keep numbers on the school premises low
- ✓ adults to line up whilst waiting for children at the end of the school day
- ✓ adults now have the choice to wear or not to wear face coverings if they choose whilst on the school grounds
- ✓ adults maintaining social distancing as they clear the school grounds promptly
- ✓ adults to not delay class teachers by trying to speak to them at the start/end of the day
- ✓ adults not congregating with others on the school grounds or just outside school

Start of the School Day

Everyone will now start at the same time. To begin with the children will be admitted from 8.45 am, so that they can take part in the daily 'Get Set, GO!' warm up challenges that take place in each class. This will change when we reintroduce 'Wake Up! Shake Up!'.

One member of staff will be stationed on the road by pedestrian gate with further staff positioned around the grounds in order to offer help and support to any child needing it.

Years 1-6

We ask that where possible the parents/carers of children in Years 1-6 leave their children in the care of school staff at the school gate each morning and do not come on to the school grounds. We understand though that some parents/carers of children in Years 1-6 might want or need to bring their children on to the playground, and this will be fine, but



they will not be able to enter school or remain on the playground once their child(ren) have been passed into the care of SJF staff.

FS2
Parents/carers of our new FS2 children can take their children to the bottom of the playground and pass them directly in to the care of the FS2 team if they choose. Unfortunately, they will not be able to enter the school building with their child.

This means that adults cannot hang about on school grounds in the morning once their child has been dropped off. We ask that parents/carers clear the playground as promptly as possible.

Summary of Start of Day Routine

- ✓ please line up outside of school
- ✓ once directed entry school will be via the pedestrian entrance from 8.45am
- ✓ Y1-Y6 parents/carers to leave children in the care of staff where possible
- ✓ Parents/carers entering or leaving school are asked to maintain social distancing, keeping children with them
- ✓ no hanging around on school grounds

Please do not congregate on the pavement outside the gate once you have dropped your child(ren) off as other children and family groups might well be coming and going.

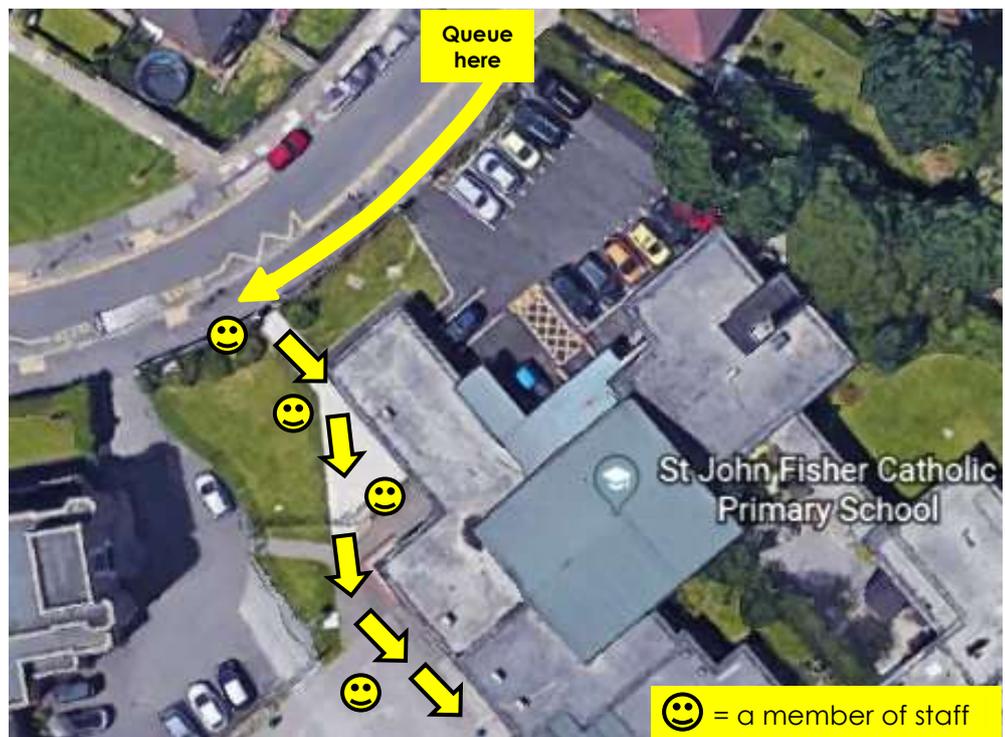
A reminder that entry to school will be from **8.45am** for all pupils and registration is at 8.55am.

children arriving after this time will be marked down as 'late'.

Parish Car Park

Please note that the parish car park will now not be used as part of a one-way system at the start and end of the school day.

Parking in the parish car park is prohibited at the start and end of the school day except for those who have specific authorisation from the school.



End of the School Day

We understand that parents/carers will need to collect their children from the playground, so finish times at the end of the school day will continue to be staggered.

The gates will open at 3.15pm so that the parents/carers of children in FS2 and Years 1 and 2 only can enter the premises and take their places on the right line. We ask that you continue to maintain social distancing for the time being. The requirement to wear a mask, however, has been removed but this will remain optional for those wishing to wear one.

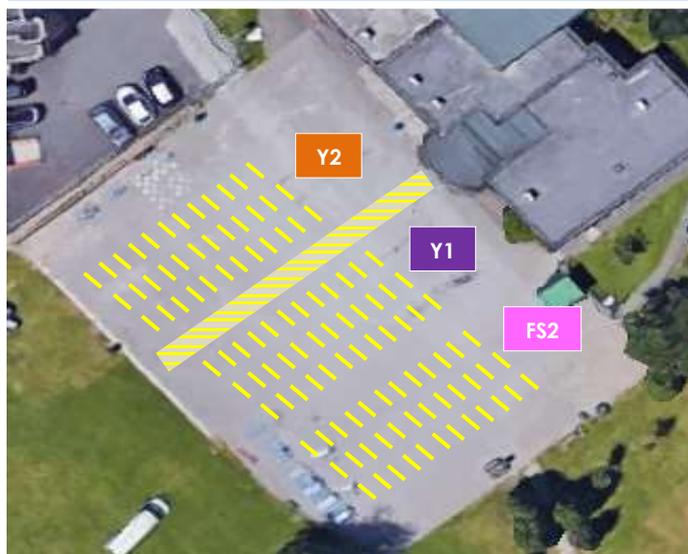
The **FS2** and **Y1** and **Y2** children will be brought down at **3.20pm** and, if you do not have an older child to collect, we ask that you leave immediately, keeping your children with you.

Parents/carers of younger children who also have children in Years 3-6 have the option to remain on the playground (as long as they keep their younger children with them), and line up in the appropriate place in order to wait until the older children are released at 3.30pm.

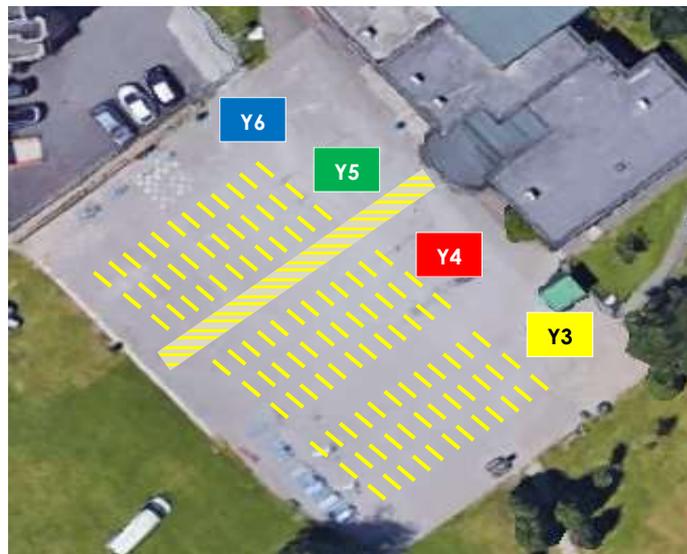
Summary of the End of Day Routine

- ✓ finish time for FS2/Y1/Y2 children is at 3.20pm (entry from 3.15pm)
- ✓ finish time for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 children is at 3.30pm (entry from 3.25pm)
- ✓ entry via the pedestrian gate
- ✓ parents/carers of children in Years 3-6 arriving before 3.25pm are asked to line up outside
- ✓ parents/carers with children in FS2/Y1/Y2 as well as in older classes can remain on the playground, keeping their younger children with them, until 3,30pm.
- ✓ please follow the arrows and maintain social distancing as you enter and leave school
- ✓ please line up in the correct place on the markers (as before) and form a queue
- ✓ once you have your child(ren), please leave immediately, keeping children with you

FS2, Y1 and Y2 (3.15pm – 3.25pm)



Years 3-6 (3.25pm – 3.35pm)



Summary

| | Start Time | Admission | Finish Time | Admission | Clear By |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| Foundation Stage 2 | 8.55am | 8.45am | 3.20pm | 3.15pm | 3.25pm |
| Y1 and Y2 | 8.55am | 8.45am | 3.20pm | 3.15pm | 3.25pm |
| Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 | 8.55am | 8.45am | 3.30pm | 3.25pm | 3.35pm |

PARKING

Please help us keep all our children and families safe at the beginning and end of the school day (and our neighbours happy too) by remembering to park safely, considerately and legally every day. Do **not** park on the yellow lines, pavements and grass verges. Thank you.

To avoid congestion (caused by parked cars) we encourage everyone to either walk from home or to park safely and legally and slightly away from school and to walk in with their children ('park and stride'). No one will be allowed to park in the church car park except in exceptional circumstances and with the prior permission of school.

Children are allowed to bring a scooter or bicycle to school. This can be taken straightaway by the adult accompanying the child or it can be left in the shelter at the owners' own risk. If left in the shelter it is important that children only handle their own bicycle or scooter.

CONTACTING STAFF

A reminder that non-urgent messages should be emailed directly to the class teachers. Here is a reminder of the class email addresses. Teachers will answer these within 24 hours however they will not respond after 5.00pm, at weekends or during holidays/Bank Holidays.

- FS2 years@st-johnfisher.org
- Y1 year1@st-johnfisher.org
- Y2 year2@st-johnfisher.org
- Y3 year3@st-johnfisher.org
- Y4 year4@st-johnfisher.org
- Y5 year5@st-johnfisher.org
- Y6 year6@st-johnfisher.org

For more urgent enquiries requiring a rapid response please call school (0114 2485009) or email us via our main school email address (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org). You can also speak to the Learning Mentor, Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher who will be on duty or a member of our administrative staff in the School Office.



WELLBEING & RECONNECTION

As before our prime focus will be to welcome back every child and focus on building an accurate picture of where they are compared to where they need be both emotionally and academically. Staff will continue to work hard to understand every child's needs, whether they are short or longer term so that we can respond and give them what they need to be happy, settled and thrive.

You can help us by engaging with us and sharing your thoughts, ideas, questions and concerns. This is especially important for those children who have gaps to close or who have not had a positive experience over the summer holiday for one reason or another. Get in touch so that you can help us to hit the ground running!

Early Years & Y1

Children in FS2 (Reception) and Y1 (in Terms 1 and 2) will benefit from a free flow, play-based curriculum. This will be supported with some focused whole-class, group and individual teaching. This will be planned and resourced carefully and will take place in and out of the classrooms.

Classrooms will be kept well ventilated. It will not be possible, nor is it required, to enforce social distancing measures with children in FS2 and Y1, though children will be encouraged to their wash hands thoroughly and regularly and to sneeze and cough safely.

With the removal of bubbles, the children will now encounter children in other classes. Children will wash their hands often and surfaces and equipment will be sanitised regularly as will learning spaces.

For children in Y1 the teaching and learning experience will feel very familiar at first as they are assessed and prepared for the full Y1 curriculum. Between September and Christmas (Terms 1 and 2) the children will be moved gradually from the free flow, play-based curriculum they are familiar with to the more formal Y1 approach as Early Learning Goals are achieved and they become ready. By the start of Term 3 in January 2022, all children will be following the Y1 programme, at their level, in line with Government guidelines.

LEARNING RESOURCES

For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, staff and pupils will have their own items, which will not be shared. Classroom based resources, such as books and games, used and shared within classes and bubbles will be quarantined and cleaned regularly. All resources that are shared between classes, such as sports, art and science equipment will continue to be cleaned frequently.



PE

PE lessons will go ahead as an important part of the broad and balanced curriculum that we will continue to offer. On their PE day, the children will be expected to wear their SJF PE uniform to school. Below are the PE days:

| | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| FS2 | Y1 & Y2 | Y3 & Y4 | Y5 & Y6 | |

For children in **Years 1-6** normal PE lessons will start from **Tuesday 6th September 2020**.

For children joining our new **FS2** class, the first day for wearing our SJF PE uniform will be on **Monday 13th September 2020**.

PE will take place outside – weather permitting – and when it has to be brought inside the children will do what is allowed by guidance. Revised and COVID-secure plans for swimming are being finalised and will be shared with Y4 children and families in due course.

Mrs Broadhead is also working with our school sports partners in order to reintroduce a programme of extra-curricular sporting activities and information will be shared once plans are finalised.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

We are also hoping to introduce a number of extra-curricular opportunities at breaktimes and after school. Mrs Broadhead and Mr Johnson are working on a plan for lunchtime activities and Mr Broadhead is looking to reintroduce the football club. We are looking at setting up an after-school singing club run by our Music teacher as well a drama club.

We are setting up 'The Hub' in the library every lunchtime for children in Years 3-6 and during this time there will be opportunities for the children to talk to emotionally available adults if they need to; complete homework tasks with support and access to school resources; play chess and board games and of course use the library and read for pleasure.

Details of all the opportunities that we are looking to set up for our children, will be shared in due course.

HOMEWORK

Setting homework to support new learning will continue to be key. This will include reading to your child; hearing your child read; encouraging them to learn multiplication tables or spellings; or completing other tasks that are sent home.



Teachers will work hard to make sure that homework tasks are fun, engaging and appropriate. All homework will have a purpose, and so it is important that it is attempted.

A reminder that if a homework task proves too difficult for a child, please do not make your child anxious by forcing him/her to continue when you know they can do no more. Please do **not** do it for your child as this helps no one. Remember, the idea of homework is to scaffold and extend new learning. Gentle encouragement is great but 'over-helping' will make it hard for staff to understand where the issues and barriers are. It will also make the children passive when we want them to be independent and resilient learners in school.

If you know your child has done his/her best, simply offer reassurance that you are pleased with their efforts and that everyone at school will also be pleased. Reassure them that the homework has done its job because it has pinpointed an issue that we can now help with. Ask them to explain (if they can) what they know and what they are finding hard, and email this information to your child's teacher via the class email address so that it can be followed up quickly and positively. Additionally, please email a teacher if your child is capable of completing homework but is refusing, so we can follow it up appropriately and supportively.

Reading Books

Reading books will be brought home. We would prefer FS2/Y1/Y2 children to use the small SJF book bags rather than the big rucksacks, as storing these at the moment is an issue. The children will only need to bring in the book bag on the book changeover day – and this will be confirmed by the children's teachers in the pre-recorded Welcome Meeting that will be shared next week. Children in Years 3-6 have lockers to store books, bags and coats.

If your child has reading books at home, please return them on the first day.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Educational visits are being planned and details will be shared in Welcome Meetings and via emails and letters. We are planning residential visits, and you will find details of meetings that we will be holding for these on the school calendar.

PARENT/CARER PARTNERSHIP

Class Welcome Meetings

These will be pre-recorded by staff and uploaded to the website and ready to view in due course.



Pupil Progress and Target-Setting Meetings

These will be done over the phone during the week commencing Monday 13th September 2021. Invitations will be sent out this week so that parents/carers can book slots on the designated day. Staff will then call parents/carers at the allotted time.

Masses, Assemblies & Liturgies

Whole school assemblies will resume, but Public Health have advised against inviting family and friends in to school to begin with, because they are concerned about a possible spike when schools reopen. Masses will again take place in line with parish guidance and rules.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Citizen Assembly (Headteacher) | Virtues Assembly (Class-Based) | Themed Assembly (Teacher-led) | Class Liturgy (filmed and shared) | Celebration Assembly |

As family and friends will not be able to attend liturgies, they will be filmed and made available on the website by clicking [here](#).

Nativity Plays, Community Carol Service & Easter Passion Play

We are planning to do everything we did pre-pandemic; however, we may have to modify plans if circumstances and guidance change.

Newsletter & Website

We will continue to share key information and celebrate all we do in school in our weekly newsletter and on our website. We will continue to celebrate our children’s achievements outside of school, so please keep sending us the details (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org).

Curriculum Overviews

We will continue to produce termly curriculum overviews in order to share information about what the children will be learning in school along with tips for helping them at home.

Calendar

Please remember to check the SJF Calendar regularly for information about school events. You can access the calendar from the homepage or by clicking [here](#).

‘ParentMail’

Please ensure that we have your most up-to-date contact information so that we are able to get in touch quickly if we need to. Thank you.



PTFA

The PTFA remains a huge part of school life and in the coming year will need as many of you as possible to get involved and support its vital work. Please join in and help us maintain the strong community spirit that is such a feature of our school. Please register your interest by emailing them with your details (ptfa@st-johnfisher.org). No decisions have been finalised regarding popular events like 'Santa in School' and discos, but everyone will work hard to do all we can for the children.



COATS & BAGS

FS2, Y1 & Y2

As children have cloakroom facilities in their individual classrooms, coats and bags can be left in their normal places. Please use the small SJF book bags on book changeover days rather than large rucksacks. Please do not send your child in with a bag otherwise.

Years 3-6

Children should only bring in what they need each day. Items will be stored in lockers and a process will be in place to ensure that only a few children at a time are in locker areas.

ENHANCED CLEANING & VENTILATION

There will continue to be a sharp focus on cleaning in school every day.

The evidence shows that good ventilation and being outside limits the risk of COVID spread. Therefore, windows and doors will be left open as much as possible during the day to aid ventilation.

Staff will also ensure that, where possible (and appropriate) learning will be taken outside so it is essential that the children come to school suitably dressed in **full uniform** with appropriate coats, hats and gloves so that they are ready to go outside.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is an expectation that all children will wear the official and approved school uniform. We expect our children to take great pride in their school and this is reflected in the way they dress for school. Summer dresses can be worn during this first term.

Official Suppliers

Uniform is available from either of our two official suppliers:

- ✓ Logo Leisurewear: <https://www.logoleisurewear.com/schoolshop/n-s/st-john-fisher>
- ✓ School Trends: <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/StJohnFisherCatholicPrimarySchoolS124HJ>



Parents and carers can also purchase uniform items in the correct colours and style without a logo from other sources if this is easier for them. Please note however, that only our official uniform suppliers have permission to sell SJF uniform with the SJF logo on it.

PE Uniform

Please note that children are expected to come to school wearing their PE uniform on PE days. The official items can be purchased, with logos, from either supplier.

If parents/carers opt to source items from elsewhere they must be absolutely plain with no logos, slogans or other embellishments, including designer label like Nike or Adidas etc. The sweatshirt must be plain maroon/burgundy and the bottoms must be plain **light** grey joggers.

PE Day Reminder

- **Mondays** FS2*
- **Tuesdays** Years 1 and 2**
- **Wednesdays** Years 3 and 4**
- **Thursdays** Years 5 and 6**



* starts on Monday 13th September 2021

** starts week commencing Monday 6th September 2021

Earrings and Jewellery

A reminder that children are **not** permitted to wear earrings/studs or any kind of jewellery at school. Sensible watches are permitted.

School Shoes

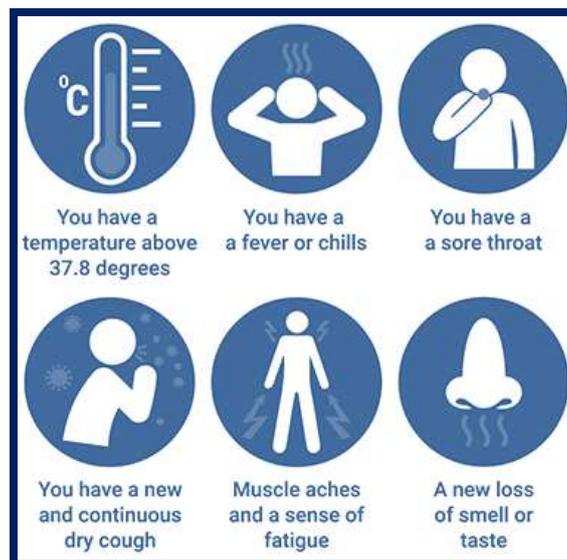
Whilst trainers/high boots can be worn to/from school e.g. in bad weather or to play football at break-times, pupils are expected to wear proper school shoes in school i.e. NO high boots or trainers (even all black ones).



COVID-19 IN SCHOOL

In line with DfE guidance in the case of a suspected infection, the school will:

- ✓ engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
 - we ask that parents and staff inform the school immediately of the outcome of any test;
- ✓ liaise with the local authority public health team
- ✓ manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) within the school community
 - we will follow public health advice regarding notifying parents/carers that there has been a confirmed case in school, including which 'bubble' this might affect. As privacy is always important the names/details of people suspected of having/confirmed as having COVID-19 will not be shared



- ✓ contain any outbreak by following local Health Protection Team advice.

WRAPAROUND CARE

Our partners from JPAC will continue to provide wrap-around care before and after school for all pupils from Wednesday 2nd September 2020.



The children will no longer be kept in bubbles whilst in the club and the sessions will be staffed mostly by people who already work in school in other roles. This limits the number of adults having contact with our children in school. Please note that parents/carers will not be allowed to enter school. Whilst dropping children off or picking them up parents/carers are asked to use wait in the foyer wearing a face covering. Only one adult in the foyer at a time please. If someone is in the foyer please queue up outside at 2m intervals.

Please note that the door will only be answered by JPAC staff and not school staff.

No decisions have been made about holiday clubs at this stage.

For more information, please check out the website or contact JPAC directly. Thank you.

- ✓ Website: www.jpacschoolclubs.co.uk
- ✓ Telephone: 07971957839 (Ryan)

