

St Augustine's RC High School

Newsletter
11th September 2020



Keep up to date
Twitter : [@sarchsofficial](https://twitter.com/sarchsofficial)
Facebook : facebook.com/sarchsofficial

Dear families,

It has been a joy to have pupils back in school and we are delighted with the manner in which they have adapted to the changes that are now in place. Pupils are following the one-way systems in school and are using the hand sanitisers that are in every classroom. We appreciate that restricting year groups to certain toilets means that pupils are having to travel further to use the facilities but expect that they will adjust to this soon. A particular well done to our new Year 7 pupils who have been wonderful!

Changes from Monday 14th September

We have had to deal with one very wet lunchtime so far this term and expect many more. We have now taken delivery of the outdoor shelters and these have been erected in the Al Fresco area. Our thanks to BB Marquee Hire (Burnley) who have been very helpful. This now provides a **seating area for pupils who wish to eat their lunches at a table / under cover**. We are now sourcing additional outdoor seating for these areas. Year groups will be on a rota with Year 7 and Year 8 on the first half of lunch and Year 9 and 10 on the second half. We are making alternative arrangements for Year 11. Pupils will have to wash their hands at the outdoor sinks prior to taking a place in the queue to access this seating area. In extreme weather conditions, Year 7 will be sent to rooms on the RE corridor, Year 8 and Year 9 will be in their class bubbles in the gym area and Year 10 and Year 11 in the Hall / Canteen, with Year 11 also allowed in the outdoor shelters.



Face Masks

There is national guidance on pupils having to wear face masks on public transport and school buses. Within school we are very happy with the one-way systems that are in place on corridors for movement between classes and will not be requiring pupils to wear masks on corridors when moving between lessons. However, with the increasing likelihood of larger numbers of pupils being indoors in cases of extreme weather we will be asking **all pupils to wear face masks in indoor communal areas during wet breaks and wet lunchtimes**. Any pupil who is not willing or able to wear a mask for these breaks will be able to shelter in the covered areas outside. Therefore, please ensure that your child has a mask with them from Monday if you wish them to have access to communal indoor areas when the weather is bad. Obviously, pupils will have to remove masks to eat and drink but once they have finished their lunch they must wear their mask.



We are not able to hand out masks at the end of the day for pupils who are catching buses. Failure to have a mask at this point may mean not being allowed on the bus. We suggest all pupils carry a spare mask.

Food

The ordering system for “Grab Bag” lunches is now available via an online form on the school website with families able to order a week in advance. Once orders have been fulfilled and collected, payment will be taken from your online account ([Tucasi / Scopay](#)). There will not be an option to pay via cash in school and there will be no vending machines.

Pupils now have access to a sheltered seating area for lunches based on a rota system (see page 1).



Contingency for Self-Isolation or Lockdown

In the event of individual class bubbles or whole year group bubbles having to self isolate, we will move to Teams lessons for these groups. This will require pupils to log on to Teams at the start of their usual lesson time for instruction by their class teacher. Effectively, pupils will need to be online for 4 or 5 sessions per day in normal school time. An audit of household access to internet and devices has been sent out via text and we would appreciate returns to identify families who may struggle with remote access to learning in the case of self-isolation or partial lockdown.

Pupils in Years 8 to 11 should be expert users on Teams and Year 7 have been introduced to the software in their initial ICT lessons. Instructional videos are available on the pupils SharePoint area if they need help with the use of the software / apps. Passwords need to be kept secure and pupils will increasingly need to use their school email account for communication. Downloading the Microsoft Outlook app on mobile phones linked to their school account and with notifications turned on has been helpful for some. In the event of full school closure, and recognising the demands on families, we would revert to the system operated during full lockdown with work being set on Teams each day and more flexibility for children as to when they complete this work.

Year 7 Get Off To A Great Start!



COVID 19 Symptoms

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If you, or someone in your household, has any of the symptoms above you must stay at home according to the self-isolation rules below. You should arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19. Pupils should only return to school after the isolation period or if they receive a negative test and no longer have symptoms.

If You Have Coronavirus Symptoms

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 however mild, you must self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started. You should arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19 – go to testing to arrange. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. You should report any positive test of a pupil to school to allow the Public Health England advice to be implemented.

If you are not experiencing symptoms but have tested positive for COVID-19, you must self-isolate for at least 10 days, starting from the day the test was taken. If you develop symptoms during this isolation period, you must restart your 10-day isolation from the day you developed symptoms. After 10 days, if you still have a temperature you should continue to self-isolate and seek medical advice. You do not need to self-isolate after 10 days if you only have a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste, as these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone.

All other household members need to stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the household became ill or if they do not have symptoms, from the day their test was taken. If anyone else in the household starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for at least 10 days from when their symptoms appear, regardless of what day they are on in their original 14-day isolation period. If a family receives a **positive test for any household member**, any other family members must be collected from school immediately and will not be allowed to travel on school / public transport. If you have symptoms, try and stay as far away from other members of your household as possible. It is especially important to stay away from anyone who is clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable with whom you share a household.

Schools will follow Public Health England guidance on pupils who should self-isolate following any report of a positive test of a pupil. This will be limited to direct and proximity contacts which is why the integrity of class bubbles is important. This is also why the compulsory wearing of face masks on buses is essential, as all buses have pupils from numerous bubbles on board. Strict adherence to the procedures in place in school will limit the impact of self-isolation on pupils and their families. We rely on support from families to stress the importance of these measures to our pupils, for everybody's benefit.

Catch It



Bin It



Kill It



Face Coverings—Updated Information

Pupils must wear face coverings when using school buses or public transport.

Pupils may choose to wear face coverings on corridors and when collecting lunches when following the one-way systems. **If pupils are brought into school for wet weather they must wear a face mask when not eating.** Any pupil unable or unwilling to wear a mask will be able to use the outdoor shelters. Face coverings are not expected to be worn in class. Pupils who do wear face masks must follow the guidance on wearing them correctly, including the correct procedure for putting them on, taking them off and storing them safely. Pupils must sanitise their hands every time they touch the mask. Pupils must always remove face coverings if instructed to do so by an adult. Disposable masks must be placed into a lidded bin, re-usable masks must be placed into a plastic bag when not being worn. Please ensure face masks are appropriate for school.

HOW TO WEAR A MEDICAL MASK SAFELY

Do's →



Wash your hands before touching the mask



Inspect the mask for tears or holes



Find the top side, where the metal piece or stiff edge is



Ensure the colored-side faces outwards



Place the metal piece or stiff edge over your nose



Cover your mouth, nose, and chin



Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides



Avoid touching the mask



Remove the mask from behind the ears or head



Keep the mask away from you and surfaces while removing it



Discard the mask immediately after use preferably into a closed bin



Wash your hands after discarding the mask

Coronavirus (COVID-19) usually spreads by droplets from coughs, sneezes and speaking. These droplets can also be picked up from surfaces, if you touch a surface and then your face without washing your hands first. This is why social distancing, regular hand hygiene, and covering coughs and sneezes is so important in controlling the spread of the virus.

The best available scientific evidence is that, when used correctly, wearing a face covering may reduce the spread of coronavirus droplets in certain circumstances, helping to protect others. As face coverings are mainly intended to protect others, not the wearer, from coronavirus (COVID-19) they are not a replacement for social distancing and regular hand washing.