

St Marys Community Nursery School.

At St Mary's we consider the safety and wellbeing of our children and staff to be paramount. This has been heightened by the global pandemic of COVID 19 which has impacted us all. Although we may have started to feel more comfortable with the "new normal" we continue to be vigilant and follow Department of Education and Public Health Guidelines. The recent upsurge in COVID cases and emergence of a new strain has once more raised questions regarding how we maintain the highest safety standards we can without impacting the education of our children.

We believe that the best place for young children during these difficult times is in Nursery where they can play, learn and develop socially in this very important year before starting school.

The following Guidelines were first introduced to support families and answer question about what Nursery would look and feel like?

I am re issuing them now to all parents. Please do not hesitate to contact me at school if you have any questions.

I would like to reiterate some key points and detail one change.

We cannot socially distance the children in our school. They are of an age where to try and impose such a restriction would be counterproductive and impact on their wellbeing. They need to feel that school is a safe place. We are stringent over hand washing and hygiene and deliver this in a positive way.

Accessing Nursery School We appreciate the patience everyone has shown for the restricted access and one way system **Please continue to use this system and please can I stress that only one adult should bring and collect a child.**

Change to previous Document- siblings attending Nursery

Siblings of children who are off school or who are part of a bubble which has been asked to stay at home due to COVID will not be admitted to Nursery until the period of their isolation is complete. This is a policy change agreed by myself as Head teacher and the Governing Body of St Marys Nursery School. Whilst we understand this may have implications for families we believe that it extends a further preventative step to reduce the spread of COVID.

Please be assured that as a staff team we are doing everything we can to ensure that your children continue to learn, have fun and enjoy a wide range of experiences in school. We know how difficult it is for some families at present and would urge you to keep in touch and not hesitate to ask for help

The following remain largely unchanged but again please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Covid aware schooling. What does it look like?

We continue to consider very carefully how best to prepare the rooms, our resources and routines. The ongoing decisions of how we teach and operate the school are reviewed regularly taking into account the children, their needs and how we can continue to provide exciting learning opportunities within the Covid restrictions we face. The children's safety and wellbeing is always a priority.

The following information is to assist us as we continue with something that should be very familiar but under these current circumstances still looks and feels a little different.

Please forgive the formal table/ bullet style- with so much information to share it seems the best way.

The following information is being shared with all families returning to school or starting in January 2021.

PLEASE NOTE the following advice may be altered or amended in light of new information or guidance form the Dfe or Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Please read it carefully.

Parents will be informed of any changes.

Thank you

Mrs K Tyrie

Headteacher

Who does it effect	What , when and where	Procedures-measures to reduce risk	Do I need to do anything?
Children	Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children must be symptom free on arriving at school • Children attending from 4th January are part of a “bubble” as per Government Guidelines. • It is made up of 2 groups sharing a large classroom and outdoor area. • Some children will leave after the morning session • Some children will leave after the additional lunchtime paid for session • Some children will leave at 3.15/3.30 pm • There are <u>no separate PM sessions</u> • No new children join the bubble after the start of the day • Not all children attend each day so some days the bubble is less • Children must be picked up and dropped off by parents or by named individual • Only one adult must attend pick up or drop off • If siblings are off school isolating due to COVID in their class or school then your child 	<p>Check your child is well each day before you leave the house.</p> <p>Please be on time to drop off and pick up.</p> <p>We are a shared site. Access to the school grounds will be locked during the school day.</p> <p>Information regarding deliveries and access out with drop off times will be displayed on gates and external entrances.</p> <p>Adhere to social distancing when waiting at school</p>

		will not be admitted to Nursery until the isolation period is completed.	
	Health and personal hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will not be taking temperatures on arrival • Children will be washing hands on arrival • Children will be supervised to wash hands at regular intervals • Hand sanitizer is available inside and outside at all times. Staff will supervise • Children will be encouraged not to touch their faces or each other's • if a child becomes unwell during the day they will be isolated (with a suitable adult) and you will be called to pick them up • In the isolation room the adult supervising your child will wear PPE including a mask 	<p>Make sure we have up to date contact details. Be aware that should your child be ill a parent must be available to pick them up.</p> <p>Talk to your child about masks and face coverings</p> <p>We will be outside as much as possible so it is essential children have suitable clothing and footwear. Coat , hat, gloves etc. as the weather gets colder.</p>
	Clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure children can manage clothing themselves • Clean clothes should be worn each day • Do not send clothes from home if a child needs changed we will use school clothes – own clothes returned home in green disposable bags • Shoes must be suitable for outdoor play – covered toes 	<p>No fancy dress costumes or dressing up. No crocs open toed sandals or flip flops.</p>
	Behaviours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children of this age will not be able to socially distance by 2 m • Children will be encouraged to minimise contact with each other while playing • When sitting down for activities lunch etc they will be sat at a distance • It can be hard to share toys and learn to play with others. We are here to help the children 	<p>We have some very useful literature and advice available for you to share with your child. We will be supporting children to enjoy their play and learning. It is important they feel safe.</p>
	Personal items / toys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will not be allowed to bring in items from home – this 	<p>Encourage your child to leave their special things somewhere safe at home.</p>

		includes comfort blankets and toys.	
	Bag for the day	Each child should have a bag containing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch (if staying) • Water bottle • Coat if not being worn • If your child is Morning only they do not require a bag. 	Label items clearly with your child's name
	When I'm hurt, sad or upset.	The staff working in school know all of the children well. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be comforted with verbal reassurance as far as possible • Physical contact will be minimal but this may not always be possible. • Young children can get frustrated and cross as they learn to share and be part of a community. We will help them to understand their feelings and support them to find ways to manage their emotions and responses to new situations. • There will be a Paediatric First Aider on site 	Reinforce the message that staff are there to help your child.
Parents	Drop off and pick up	Times for both drop off and pick up are staggered over a 15 minute window. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children will be met and dismissed from the gate to Nursery play area 2. The school car parks will be closed – (only disabled access to staff car park please advise if required) 3. Entry to the Overleigh site will be via the gate entrance to the left when looking to the front of the school 4. Parents will not be allowed into the school building 5. Please adhere to social distancing while waiting 	Keep to times Keep in touch – if there is any issue we need to know

	Contact with school	admin@stmarysnursery.cheshire.sch.uk School Office 01244981222	NOTE calls from school office will show as an 0845 caller please do not ignore.
	Illness within the family	If there is illness within the family children must NOT be sent to school If siblings /family members are off school isolating due to COVID then your child will not be admitted to Nursery until the isolation period is completed.	We expect all the usual coughs colds and tummy upsets. Please help us by keeping your child at home if they are unwell. Any child with vomiting or diarrhoea must be kept at home for 48 hours after the last episode.
Staff		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will socially distance from each other during the day and breaks • Government Guidelines do not recommend the wearing of PPE for Early Years staff in class– • Staff will wear PPE for intimate care and First Aid. • Staff will undertake additional cleaning and hygiene measures to minimise risk. 	
Children staff and parents	Our day – what will it look and feel like	The room have been stripped back to provide an open manageable space that can be used flexibly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More manageable and effective cleaning • Enhanced cleaning regime of rooms surfaces and toilets • Resources for the children are risk assessed and procedures put in place to allow children to play and engage in some if not all familiar activities. • The children will be outdoors as much as possible. • Large outdoor play equipment will be used under supervision and with additional cleaning measures in place. 	Giving children confidence to come to school is important. If you or your child are anxious please talk to us
Suspected case within school community	Staff or child	Procedures as above for child illness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test results should be reported to school • A positive test from child or family member – all children 	

		<p>and staff within the bubble will remain at home and in self isolation for 10 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Health England and Dfe will be informed• Government- track and trace – from 28th May If staff and or families are identified through track and trace the school will follow the “positive test” procedures	
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