



Mrs A D Thorpe
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16th June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you so much for your patience this week in the face of all the disruption from such an unexpected closure. Following visits from specialist surveyors we now have a clearer understanding of how we can plan for the rest of this term and are looking ahead to September 2023 onwards.

Staff from ARUP, the company we have engaged to support us in the coming months, have reassured us that we will be able to make our school building fully safe within weeks. This means that the short-term plan is for all children to return to St John Vianney Catholic Primary School (SJV) before the end of the summer term.

Further information about what remedial work has been undertaken will be explained to parents once it has been completed so that you can be assured, **once reopened, our school will be fully safe.**

ARUP have assured school and the BBCET Trust that the Nursery and Reception classrooms that will be used for the next few weeks are completely clear of any RAAC roofing and are therefore totally safe to reopen.

We have been working closely with colleagues from across our Trust (Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust) to develop a short-term plan to provide our children with face-to-face learning for the next few weeks whilst we wait for our school building to be fully open. By working with other schools within our Trust, and local venues, we are in a position to ensure that all educational venues offered to our pupils follow the same policies and guidance around areas such as health and safety, safeguarding and risk assessment processes. To help with your planning, we know that these arrangements will be in place until **at least Friday 30th June.**

We have tried to keep most children on the SJV site where possible however, Year 6 will be educated next door at West Denton Community Centre, they will be registered and dismissed from SJV and then walked over by SJV staff.

For the short term pupils in Year 4 and Year 5 will be educated in the Sixth form centre at Sacred Heart High School. Both year groups will have their own classrooms at Sacred Heart High School and will be taught by their current class teachers, supported by staff from SJV who they are familiar with. Our pupils will not be educated alongside the other children from these schools.

We are currently trying to source buses/coaches to transport the Y4 and Y5 pupils from our site to Sacred Heart High School every day. As you will appreciate, securing transport at such short notice is proving incredibly difficult when coach and bus companies are committed to other contracts. Therefore, the timings of pick up and drop off will have to be slightly adjusted; I hope to confirm on Tuesday 20th June 2023.

For pupils in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 a rota will be in place for pupils to attend school and use the UKS2 Lindisfarne Block which is separate to school and where there is no RAAC. We need to do this because we can only accommodate 120 pupils in this block at any one time so we have to rota the 180 pupils in the short term.

Reception and Nursery will both be taught in the nursery block and one of the reception classrooms, as these are part of a much newer extension to school and there is no RAAC present.

New provisional timings of school days – drop off and pick up timings

Year group	Start time and venue	Collection time and venue
Nursery	8:45am All parents come through the nursery gates and drop off at the Early Years yard where you will be met by staff.	3:00pm All parents come through the nursery gates into the Early Years yard where staff will direct you.
Reception	8:45am All parents come through the nursery gates and drop off at nursery double doors	3:00pm All parents come through the nursery gates and collect from the nursery doors
Year 1, Year 2, Year 3	8:45am pupils to walk through the green metal gates round to the school yard (As normal)	3:05pm pupils to be dismissed in classes from the green metal gates round to the school yard (As normal)
Year 4 and Year 5	Sixth form building- Sacred Heart High School BUS TIMINGS TO BE CONFIRMED	Sixth form building- Sacred Heart High School BUS TIMINGS TO BE CONFIRMED
Year 6	9:00am to arrive at SJV yard where staff will meet them and register them	3:15pm staff will dismiss pupils from SJV as normal.

Nursery

Return full time to school from Wednesday 21st June using the Early Years gates entrance as normal. There will be staff around to direct you.

Reception Pupils

Return full time to school from Wednesday 21st June using the nursery building. This will be safely accessed via the Early Year's wooden gate path around to the Nursery double doors. There will be staff around to direct you.

Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 Rota

Date	Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Rota for attending school and home learning
Wed 21 st June	Year 3 in school
	Year 2 in school
	Year 1 HOME LEARNING
Thur 22 nd June	Year 1 in school
	Year 3 in school
	Year 2 HOME LEARNING
Fri 23 rd	Year 2 in school
	Year 1 in school
	Year 3 HOME LEARNING
Mon 26 th	Year 1 in school
	Year 2 in school
	Year 3 HOME LEARNING
Tue 27 th	Year 3 in school
	Year 1 in school
Year 2 at Saltwell Park Trip still going ahead so attend school for registration	
Wed 28 th	Year 3 in school
	Year 1 in school
	Year 2 HOME LEARNING
Thur 29 th	Year 3 in school
	Year 2 in school
	Year 1 HOME LEARNING
Fri 30 th	Year 3 in school
	Year 2 in school
	Year 1 HOME LEARNING

Year 4 and Year 5

To attend SHHS (Sacred Heart High School) fulltime from Wednesday 21st June 2023.

Year 6

Return to residential on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd June **(TO BE COLLECTED AT 11:30am)**

It is expected to rain both days and the children are sleeping in tents. We are expecting them to be very wet as we will be outside all day and night!!

Due to these difficult circumstances, we will be unable to offer hot dinners to any children across all the different sites. Children will all need to bring a packed lunch to school regardless of where they will be based. All parents of FSM children will receive their £15 per week voucher via the current email system. The pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, we are still working on plans on how to provide this, so details will follow next week.

We understand that parents may have a number of questions about these arrangements and therefore we have attached a FAQ document to hopefully answer some of these. Please read this guide carefully as it informs parents about pupil illness, reporting absence etc.

As parents are aware, our current school telephone is unmanned, however we have been able to make arrangements that from Monday 19th June you will be able to ring the school number and speak to a member of the office during school hours. Please note, office staff will not be able to answer any questions about the current building issues.

Whilst we have worked hard to ensure that questions are answered and plans are robust, we have responded to an emergency situation and acknowledge that there may be some teething issues that arise. If you have any further questions that are not answered in our FAQ document, please could we ask you to contact us directly about these via office@stjohnvianneynewcastle.org

We appreciate that all these changes are unexpected. However, we would like to reassure parents that this is the quickest and best temporary solution which allows for children to be educated face-to-face and keeps children with their own teachers and their friends.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. A.D. Thorpe

Head teacher