



St Matthew's Primary School
Wenlock Street
Luton
LU2 0NJ

10th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to those of you that attended the 'Meet and Greet' sessions earlier this week. It was lovely to meet so many parents and children again. I hope that you were able to ask any questions you may have had and that you feel the session has helped your child to feel more comfortable with joining us next week. The Foundation Stage Team feel these sessions were very successful and that they have already begun to build relationships with both parents and children.

As you are aware, school is a little different to how we normally operate. We are following all Government guidance and have had all of our plans and risk assessments thoroughly checked by Luton Borough Council's Corporate Health and Safety Advisor. I am very happy to report that pupils who have already returned to school appear to have adapted quickly to the alterations we have had to make. They have shown confidence, flexibility and real enjoyment to be back. Our school feels alive again!

Bubbles

We are operating in class 'bubbles' of up to 30 children currently. The Government guidance does allow us to have larger year group bubbles, which for St Matthew's could be bubbles of up to 120 children. Many schools have already chosen to work in larger groups than we have. Over the coming weeks I will be reviewing this arrangement, whilst adhering to local and national guidance. It may be that we move to year group bubbles for the use of the dining hall and outside spaces. **At the current time we are remaining in our class bubbles of 30.** I will of course inform parents and carers of any changes.

Drop off

When you drop or collect your child each day please:

- Only 1 adult to drop/collect - the pavements are **very busy around school**
- Line up outside the gate into the Foundation Stage Playground (gate 3)
- **Please observe social distancing when waiting.** We cannot guarantee that all parents will do this so feel free to wear a mask if you choose
- Please **only arrive at your class set times** (there are 10 minutes between each class)
- Please be patient with us

When the gate is opened please come through into the playground and drop your child at their class door.

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Rayner
Acting Deputy Headteachers: Mr Adam Bell & Mr Jon Parker
Wenlock Street, Luton, LU2 0NJ
Tel: 01582 723970 Fax: 01582 451961
Email: admin@stmatthews.primaryluton.co.uk

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the safeguarding of children.



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'Around the Clock Club' Wrap-Around Care

We have had a small number of enquiries about Breakfast and After School childcare. We are currently looking into the options to provide this for our Foundation Stage children. I am hopeful that we will be able to make arrangements to suit. I will be in touch with more information in the coming days.

Symptoms

Please can I remind parents and carers to keep children at home if they or another member of the household are exhibiting any of the symptoms below (taken from the NHS website)

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you, your child or any member of your household have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

If we receive a positive test result from a child or a member of staff, parents of the bubble involved will be notified. Pupils and adults in the bubble will need to isolate for 14 days. We will liaise with Public Health England and inform anyone who needs to isolate promptly.

Please be aware that we do NOT test children at school. It is a parent's responsibility to arrange a test.

We are very much looking forward to working with you and look forward to welcoming your child next week.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Victoria Rayner
(Acting Headteacher)

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