



# ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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*Headteacher: Miss D McGrail*

Wokingham Borough Council

Diocese of Oxford

1st September 2020

## Returning to School: The 'Recovery' Curriculum

Following the email last week regarding the health and safety measures we're putting in place prior to welcoming the pupils back next week, we wanted to share with you key aspects of our plan for learning this academic year.

### **The first few weeks**

Our focus in the first instance will be to ensure that pupils are ready to learn. The act of recovery is at least as much an emotional and social one as it is academic.

We will be delivering an adapted curriculum during the 2020-2021 academic year, which acknowledges:

- Many pupils will have missed the structure and normality of school
- The gains that pupils will have made (enriching experiences at home with their families, exploring the local area and contributing to positive community efforts in the face of the huge challenge presented by COVID-19)
- Every child in our school has had a different experience during this time
- The need to establish a firm foundation for future learning

Staff and pupils will begin the term re-establishing school routines, albeit within the context of the 'new normal' (the omission of whole school assemblies and the inclusion of several opportunities for handwashing during the day, for example).

Once in school, behaviour and learning expectations will be shared and agreed and a class identity established. In PSHE lessons and embedded in our day-to-day practice will be opportunities for personal reflection, discussion of concerns and the emotional support of pupils. Break and lunchtimes have been carefully staggered to balance compliance with government guidance while providing opportunities for activity and play. All classes will participate in the daily mile at least three times a week to ensure children have regular breaks from lessons, to physically move around; and engage with their peers. All of these activities are used to reduce anxiety, build resilience and support reintegration to the school environment.

### **Individual assessment and target setting**

We will assess where each individual is academically. This will take the form of constant informal assessment in each lesson. The Department for Education have provided clear guidance on this and teachers have planned structured lessons with clear progression built in. We are fortunate to have experienced teachers and Teaching Assistants used to responding to the challenges of mixed-ability classes. For core subjects, we have reorganised and recruited staff to provide small class sizes of 20 in Key Stage 2. In EYFS and KS1 20 will be the regular class size. This will more easily enable the teaching professionals in the classroom to respond to individual learning needs.

Our teachers will be providing increased verbal rather than written feedback on work produced in lessons. This will provide regular, immediate and focused feedback for learners and provide time for teachers to accurately assess where pupils are and plan lessons in response to this information.

### **Home and school working together**

You have performed an incredibly challenging and valuable role during the time of enforced school closure and the experiences that you have shared with your children, whether linked to the home learning we provided or simply by spending more time together as a family will have had a positive impact on your child. The home school partnership has a crucial role to play in helping our children to make their next steps in learning.

Information relating to learning in school will be shared regularly with you in the following ways:

- Newsletters
- Our website (currently being re-designed to be launched later this month). We will maintain dedicated class pages whereby relevant resources can be accessed and downloaded as appropriate, to support learning in school.
- Instead of the usual 'Meet the Teacher' evening (held in week 3 of term) we will send curriculum, home learning and assessment information to all parents. Routines in school and related to the consolidation tasks sent home will be shared with you.
- We have a very comprehensive data package in school called Target Tracker. This will be used to identify gaps in pupils' learning and measure progress over time. Class teachers will share assessment information with you termly, regarding your child's current levels and planned next steps for learning. For those children identified as requiring extra support, targeted group or individual work will be planned in.
- For those pupils on the Special Educational Needs [SEN] Register, Individual Pupil Plans will be shared termly. Our SENCo, Mrs Hilling will be a key point of contact for any related queries.

You can also contact us to share information:

- There will still be an 'open door' policy, but with a difference: appointments will need to be made via the office [admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk) or telephone calls planned between class teachers and parents rather than face-to-face meetings.
- Share good news relating to pupils' interests and successes with class teachers via email. We will continue to celebrate out of school achievements in class assemblies.
- Every class has a unique e-mail address e.g. [blake@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:blake@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk); class teachers will aim to respond within two working days. Please note it may not be possible to monitor and respond to Emails during the teaching day.

### Virtual Learning

Many of our pupils engaged positively with the home learning tasks sent home from the commencement of the enforced closure. We have made clear plans for the event of pupils missing any further time from school, which involve supplementing work sent home with virtual lessons.

In the event of a class needing to quarantine for 14 days, live lessons will be conducted through MS Teams. All pupils will be given individual log-ins and invitations to the lessons. Further information about this and the safeguards that need to be in place (such as the need for an adult to be in the room with the child) will be provided once our appropriate policies have been ratified by the Governing Body. This is a high priority for us and we are fortunate to have access to Government funding in order to establish MS Teams in the school.

Over the course of the past few months, we have worked as a staff team to put in place clear measures that take into account the social, emotional and learning needs of our pupils. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them back and working with your support to continue their learning journey.

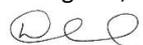
### Arrival and departure times:

Arrival		Departure	
8:35am – 8:45am	Infants	3:00pm	Infants
8:50am – 9:00am	Infant and Junior Siblings	3:10pm	Infant and Junior Siblings
9:00am – 9:10am	Juniors	3:20pm	Juniors

### PE days:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
De La Mare	TS Eliot Longfellow	Milne Donaldson	Milne Blake

Kind Regards,



Debra McGrail  
Headteacher