



St Augustine's Academy Newsletter

2nd September 2021



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Monday 6th September is the start of a new year at school. We hope that you have all enjoyed your summer break and feel refreshed and ready for the year ahead. Staff have been in school this week, making sure that everything is ready for welcoming you back and we are really looking forward to seeing you.

We would also like to inform you of a staffing change. Miss Drennan, has left our school to take up a new position. We wish her all the best for the future and would like to thank her for all the work she has done for our school. We are currently recruiting for a new office administrator, however in the meantime, Mr Mead and Mrs Holloway will be the school's main contacts in the office.

New Government guidance is now in place for schools with regards to Covid-19. Please read the information contained in this newsletter so that you are aware of our school routines and procedures for the new term. If you have any questions, then please contact the school office. If no one answers the telephone, please leave a message and someone will try to make contact with you.

Enjoy the weekend and we will see you on Monday. Best wishes **Amanda Howes - Headteacher**

'Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16



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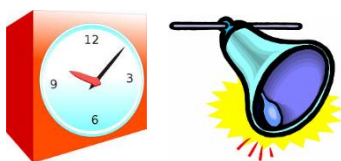
Our School Day Routines

From 6th September 2021



We are looking forward to welcoming children back to school on Monday 6th September. Although most Covid-19 restrictions have now been lifted in society, there are still measures that we have in school to help continue to keep everyone safe. Below, you will find information about our school day routines, which are in place to help everyone keep safe and well. Please remember, if we find a worrying increase in Covid-19 cases at our school, then we will revert to many of the restrictions we had in place before the summer holiday. These changes may occur overnight so please be prepared for this.

Start, Finish Times and Breakfast Club



The school day will no longer be staggered.

In the mornings, children should arrive at school for 8:50am for an 8:55am registration. All children should enter the school from the side pedestrian gate. Parents will not be allowed onto the school site in the mornings. All messages regarding pupils should be telephoned or emailed to the school office or given to the teacher/teachers on duty.

At the end of the school day, the side pedestrian gate will be opened for parents at 3:15pm to enter the school site ready to receive their children at 3:20pm. Children should be collected from the following places.

- Reception – From the Early Years playground
- Year 1 – Year 1 classroom entrance (field side)
- Year 2 – Year 2 classroom entrance (field side)
- Year 3 – Main playground (First exit after EYFS)
- Year 4 – Main playground (Second exit)
- Year 5/6 – Main playground. (Yr5 First exit, Yr6 Second exit) Children from Year 5/6 may walk home alone if written permission is received from their parents/carers

Lunchtimes and Playtimes



Lunchtimes and playtimes will continue to be staggered. During the lunch hour, children will have 30 minutes eating and 30 minutes playing each day. All children will now eat in the dining room and will be able to play with children from other classes at play and lunchtime.

Outdoor Learning



Children will spend much time learning outside in the healthy open air. Each class has been allocated 2 sessions per week in our wonderful Forest School area.

Classrooms



This is what it will be like in your classroom.

- Class 'Bubbles' will no longer exist. Children will be able to mix with their peers from across the school e.g. at playtimes
- Children will mostly sit side by side, in rows of tables facing the front
- Rooms will be very well ventilated and high reaching windows will be open all day. Children may wear extra layers if they are chilly
- Children will continue to have their own pens/pencils as far as possible and shared equipment will be cleaned between classes. No pencil cases should be brought into school

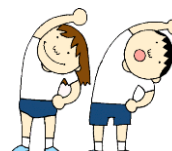
Hygiene Routines



Good hygiene routines will be built into the school day. Children and staff will:

- Wash their hands with soap and water, for 20 seconds, at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Catch sneezes with tissues or an elbow and put used tissues straight into the lidded bin provided.

PE



Children in Years 1 – 6 should continue to wear PE Kit to school on PE days which are indicated below.

- Reception – No PE Kit needed (until September) but trainers/suitable clothing on Wednesday
- Year 1 – Monday and Tuesday
- Year 2 – Tuesday and Wednesday
- Year 3 – Thursday and Friday
- Year 4 – Thursday and Friday
- Year 5 – Thursday and Friday
- Year 6 – Thursday and Friday



School Guidelines

Expectations for Pupils, Parents and Carers



When our school begins the new term on Monday 6th September, it is important that we all follow Government guidelines, our Risk Register controls and our own 'St Augustine's Way' to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible. The list of expectations below must be followed by all pupils, parents and carers to help our school stay a safe environment for all.

Pupils Expectations:

- *Live the St Augustine's Way by following our Golden Rules 'Show Respect, Be Kind and Try Our Best' and remembering our values.*
- *Keep yourself and others safe by:*
 - *Listening carefully to school staff and following their instructions*
 - *Waiting patiently – everything may take longer than usual*
 - *Washing your hands frequently, with soap, for at least 20 seconds*
 - *Leaving all PE kit and toys at home and only bringing essential equipment to school*
 - *Avoid sharing or touching other people's personal things e.g. water bottles*
 - *Avoiding touching your mouth, nose, and eyes*
 - *Remembering to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'*
 - *Avoiding putting things in your mouth e.g. pencil*
 - *If you wear a face covering or mask to school, you must take it off before you enter the school building and give it to your parent or carer to throw away or take home.*
- *Wear your school uniform; wear your PE kit to school on PE days*



Remember – *If you are unsafe, consequences will be given, and your parents/carers informed. This includes actions such as: deliberately coughing or spitting, touching others and playing unsafe games.*

Parents and Carers Expectations:

- *DO NOT bring your child/ren to school if they have Coronavirus symptoms but follow the Government guidance here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>*
- *Remember, children no longer need to isolate if a child in the class has Covid-19, unless they have symptoms*
- *Collect your child immediately if you are called regarding illness*
- *Support the school in getting a test and engaging with Track and Trace if Covid-19 symptoms are detected in school*
- *Ensure that your child has good attendance and is only away from school if they are ill*
- *Encourage walking, cycling or scooting to school*
- *Young children must always stay next to their parent/carers (e.g. buggy, holding hands, reins)*
- *Be considerate to others who may not have been vaccinated, by continuing to social distance*
- *Be on time. (Please do not arrive too early as this will cause congestion)*
- *Breakfast Club will operate fully from 7:45am. (£3.00 for 1 child and £5.00 for 2 per day) Breakfast Club is free to pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium*
- *Support our school staff in reinforcing health and safety messages and set a good example by following them too.*
- *Do not attempt to enter the school building or meet with staff at the start of the school day but contact the office by telephone or email if you have a message for a staff member, or speak to the members of staff on duty.*
- *Ensure that the school's uniform policy, including for jewellery and hair, is followed. If you have any issues concerning uniform then please contact the school*



Remember – *Parents/carers/younger siblings will not be permitted to enter the school building at drop off and pick-up times. This includes for use of the toilet.*

BACK TO SCHOOL

Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that - whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun - you can do it safely.

Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private - so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you - but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online - by anyone, not just someone from school - talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met - and who might not be who they say - is definitely best avoided.

React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too - if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).