



Our Lady Catholic Primary School

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PRAYER FOR THE START OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



Loving God,

*Our creator, our saviour, our companion,
Bless this journey of a new school year that we undertake today.*

*Refresh our souls and renew our spirits
as we embrace the beautiful ministry you have called us to.
We welcome those who are new to our school community and
ask that you strengthen them to share the wonderful gifts you have given them.
Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the return of our children to this
school, and may you guide them to return with open hearts
and minds eager to learn.*

*We ask this in Your name,
Amen*

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer holiday and have been able to keep safe and healthy. As a school team, we are very much looking forward to welcoming children back for the new academic year tomorrow morning. As you may be aware, there are a number of guidelines that the government have set out to ensure that schools are as safe as they can possibly be in the current situation. As such, we would like to share key information with you about your child's pick up and drop off times.

As per the guidance, in order to maintain social distancing we aim to minimise the number of parents in and around the school premises at drop off and pick up times. Please note that only one parent will be permitted to drop off and/or collect their children. We also need your support by ensuring that you are punctual in order to help our systems run as smoothly as possible. We also request that, at this current time, parents do not pick up children from other families.

Drop-Offs

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)

Your drop off time is at **8.40am**. Please do not arrive before this time and depart as soon as you have dropped off your children to support our social distancing policy. Please bring your children through the school gate and drop them off at the KS1 gate where a member of staff will greet them and give them instructions to line up in the playground. You will then follow the one way system (which is signposted by arrows) past the office and out of the car park gates. **Parents will not be allowed into the playground.** This will be a familiar process to those of you whose children attended when the school re-opened in June.

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)

Your drop off time is at **8.40am**. Please do not arrive before this time and depart as soon as you have dropped off your children to support our social distancing policy. Please drop your child at the KS2 gate where they will be met by a member of staff. They will make their way along the path and be instructed to line up in the playground.

Please drop your Year 3 or 4 child off first if they have a sibling in Year 1 or 2 so that they do not mix with the Key Stage 1 bubble.

Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6)

Your drop off time is from **8.55am**. Please do not arrive before this time and depart as soon as you have dropped off your children to support our social distancing policy. Please drop your child at the KS2 gate where they will be met by a member of staff. They will make their way along the path and be instructed to line up in the playground.

Your Year 5 or 6 child can be dropped off at 8.40am but **only if they have a sibling in Year 1, 2, 3 or 4**. This is not compulsory as some of them might like to walk to school by themselves and arrive at 8.55am. If they do arrive at 8.40am, they need to be dropped off at the car park gates, where they will be asked to line up on the grass in the car park.

Pick-Ups

Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2)

All children in Year 1 and 2 will be picked up from the KS1 gate at 3.00pm. Once again, **parents will not be allowed into the playground.** You will then follow the one way arrow system past the office and out of the car park gates.

If you have another child in **Year 3 or 4**, you can collect them from outside the office on your way past at 3.00pm.

If you have another child in **Year 5 or 6**, you can collect them from the external dining hall door on your way past at 3.00pm.

Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4)

If children **DO NOT** have siblings in Key Stage 1, they can be collected from the Key Stage 2 gate at 3.00pm.

If you also have a child in **Year 5 or 6**, you can pick them up at the same time. The children will be lined up on the grass area in the car park ready to be picked up from the car park gate.

Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6)

If children **DO NOT** have siblings in Years 1, 2, 3 or 4 they can be collected from the Key Stage 2 gate at **3.15pm** (unless they have permission to walk home by themselves). Written or verbal permission from a parent is needed in order for children to make their own way home.

Early Years

Information about drop off and pick up arrangements will be sent separately in due course.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your understanding and patience for the challenges that lie ahead. We will constantly monitor these arrangements and may need to adapt them if necessary.

As we introduce these procedures, we may experience some initial teething problems in the first day or two – so please be patient with us as try to organise the drop off and pick up times so that they run as smoothly as possible.

We look forward to seeing you all tomorrow for what we hope will be a fruitful and enjoyable term back together as one community., we clearly have a wonderful community at our school and, as the past few months have demonstrated, when we all work together as one community, inspire and foster a love of learning and endeavour to follow our gospel values, we will continue to see our children flourish academically, spiritually and morally in these unusual times.

With very best wishes,

Richard Curry