

St Giles'and St George's C of E Academy

3rd June 2020

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Different Times

The beginning of June sees us open our doors to children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 after 10 weeks which saw us only able to cater for the children of Key Workers. These times are challenging for us all, parents are faced with the difficult decision of whether to send their children to school or not. Our large school has enabled us to cater for the 100+ children who have joined us safely whilst providing the reassurance of routine that the children are familiar with. We know how difficult home learning has been for families and we are relishing the opportunity to once again teach your children. If your child is in an eligible year group and has not yet returned we would encourage you to think again about whether you feel that this would be appropriate. The longer a child is absent from school the harder they will find it when they return. Staff are on hand at school to answer any questions you may have.

For those children who are not yet allowed to return to school we miss you and are hopeful that you will be able to return before the summer holidays. Starting this week your class teacher will be organising a video call via Zoom to catch up with you and see how you are doing. Parents, you will receive a link which you just need to click, using either a phone, tablet or computer at the time stated in the text. This will allow your child to join their class teacher and other members of the class for a 30 minute activity.

Before and After school provision

For the past 10 weeks we have been able to provide free care for Key worker children between 8:00 and 5:00pm. Now we have more children in school we need to revise this offer. If any family needs their child to stay before or after school the following charges will apply from Monday 8th June

8:00- 8:50— £3.50

3.20—4.15— £3.50

3:20—5:00—£5.00

We are currently unable to offer care later than 5:00pm

Staffing

The past few weeks has seen some staffing changes here at St. Giles' and St. George's and we have been preparing our staffing structure for 2020-2021. Mrs Lawton a valued and much loved member of our team has been successful in being appointed to her 'dream job' as SENCO of a local special school. Mrs Lawton has worked at St Giles' and St George's for over 18 years and will be greatly missed. Due to personal circumstances Miss Boon will be leaving us this July and Miss Boden who has completed her NQT year with us this year has secured a job closer to her home in Birmingham and will also be leaving us in September.

These developments together with our ever expanding pupil numbers have resulted in changes to our school structure and staffing from September 2020.

As a school we strive hard to give your children the best start to their education journey and as such we ensure that our classes in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are very small with no more than approximately 20 children in each class, this ensures that each child receives a high level of adult intervention. Ever decreasing school budgets mean that these class sizes are not sustainable throughout the whole school and as children become more independent in KS2 they are assigned mixed age classes. The national curriculum in KS2 is not split into year groups but is instead split into LKS2 and UKS2 and thus the teaching of children in mixed age classes is something that is seen across the education sector. In September 2020 there will be three Year 3/4 classes in LKS2 and three Year 5/6 classes in UKS2, these classes will be mixed ability and decided by the teachers based on current friendship groups providing an even mix in each class.

The teachers at St Giles' and St George's are very experienced, all three teachers will plan together to ensure consistency across all classes. Individual year groups will still have the opportunity to take part in traditional events without this impacting on classes. Examples of this will include

Year 6 production and leavers events

Year 5 Standon Bowers residential

Year 5 1 night retreat to Ilam

Year 4 Dearne Valley residential

Should any parents have views regarding friendships or classes could you please email bursar@stgg.org.uk, Mrs Pointon is available to discuss any question either in person or over the phone.

Headteacher - C. Pointon												
EYFS			KS1				LKS2			UKS2		
Nursery	Rec	Rec	Yr. 1	Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 2	Yr.3/4	Yr. 3/4	Yr. 3/4	Yr. 5/6	Yr. 5/6	Yr. 5/6
A. Thurley	H. Snape	G. Barclay EYFS Lead	H. Maqsood	H. Gray Pastoral Lead	D. Pearce	S. Heaps/J. Dodds	H. Booth Assistant HT	N. Bowers	G. Crewe	N. Jones	S. Dolan	S. Wright SENCO Lead

As you can see each Key Stage is led by a member of the Senior leadership team who comprise the following

Mrs Booth—Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Barclay—EYFS and Curriculum lead

Mrs Gray—Pastoral Lead

Mrs Wright—SENCO and UKS2 lead