



Christ Church CE VC Primary School

Aspire, celebrate and learn...

20 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide you with information about how the school is responding to the constantly changing guidance. I will also take the opportunity to alert you to possible changes during this current lockdown.

Remote Learning

Thank you to you and the children for the positive way everyone has embraced our new system. We have received many positive comments and these have been passed on to the teachers. All staff are working hard in these current times. For many their workload has increased and they are also adapting to a change in working practices – as are many of you.

A questionnaire has gone out to ask whether any family is having difficulty accessing remote learning., This difficulty may be due to hardware or WiFi. If you are experiencing difficulties with access then please email remotelarning@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk.

Free School Meals

There is much in the news about Free School Meals, especially the poor parcels that were delivered to some families in the country. For our families, some very substantial parcels have been created by Sodexo and have been distributed. However, from the week beginning 18 January 2021, the school will move over to a voucher system. Due to a generous grant from Bradford on Avon Town Council and Wiltshire Council, the school was able to offer vouchers to these families over the summer, Christmas and hope this will extend over the February half term.

Changes to the school day during the lockdown

The school will need to change the timings at the beginning and end of the school day. There are several reasons but the main one is the need to introduce the weekly testing for staff. The other reason is to enable teachers to maintain both classroom learning and remote learning commitments and preparation.

Drop off	Years 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 continue to use the Sladesbrook or Berryfield entrances independently.
	Foundation and Year 1 continue to use the Berryfield entrance independently.
Pick up	Entrance via Berryfield or Sladesbrook Exit via Sladesbrook or Berryfield

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Headteacher: Mr Neil Baker B.Ed. (Hons) MSc., iDeputy Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Ruff BA (Hons)

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VAT No: GB501-6248-82

Timings Start of the day	Years 5 & 6	8.45am (gates open at 8.40-8.55am)	
	Years 3 & 4	8.45am (gates open at 8.40-8.55am)	
	Years 2, 1 & Foundation	8.50am (gates open at 8.50-9.00am)	
End of the day	Years 4 & 6	3.20pm	Collection from the designated areas Years 5 & 6 can be met from Sladesbrook gate. Thank you for keeping your social distancing when waiting to collect your child and for wearing a face covering. Please continue to maintain this.
	Year 5	3.15pm	
	Year 2 & 3	3.10pm	
	Year 1 & Foundation	3.00pm	

As the numbers of parents on site has decreased, I have decided to invite you to use the Sladesbrook entrance as an entry into the school at the end of the day.

As both entrances are now an entry and exit please be aware of your own safety and maintain a safe distance. We continue to ask that anyone on site should wear a face covering.

These changes above will start on Monday 25 January 2021.

Number of pupils requesting a place in school

These numbers have now stabilised. Depending on the day of the week, the percentage of the total pupil population ranges from 34% to 40%. Where the cohort size is more than 20 children will continue to be taught in two groups in separate classrooms. Compared to many schools this number remains high and in accordance with the guidance we ask that you only consider sending your children to school if you absolutely have to.

From our contact with families who have critical worker status, I would like to extend our support for the work you are undertaking. I speak particularly of the front line NHS and PHE staff who, like many of us, are responding to constant change but in particular are supporting those in society who are of greatest need. Thank you. For these families, it is important we remain open so that your service continues to operate.

Below are four email contacts should you need them.

Abigail Smith – Child & Family Support Worker

Abigail Smith’s role is to support children and families who may be having a difficult time. Abigail Smith can be contacted on the main number 01225 86344 or familysupportworker@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk

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Nicola Waylen – Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) and Inclusion Team Manager

Nicola Waylen's role is to support children who have either a diagnosed SEN condition or a disability. She also supports pupils who may be having trouble accessing the learning compared to that of their peers. Contact Nicola Waylen using the main number 01225 863444 or senco@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk

For issues with the **remote learning platform** we now have a designated email address of remotelarning@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk . If you have any issues please use this email address.

General enquiries will still go through admin@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk where your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

Please contact these staff should you need them. Also attached to this mailing is a letter from Helean Hughes, Director for Education at Wiltshire Council.

With every good wish and please keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Baker', written in a cursive style.

Neil Baker
Headteacher