

**Headteacher:** Mrs M. Jackson  
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Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all enjoyed a lovely summer with your children. The time is nearing for our children to return to school, and you may be aware from media coverage that the government has asked some schools to close or partially close due to the presence of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in their school buildings. We understand that this is an unsettling news story and that it may naturally have led you to wonder about the arrangements for the start of term.

I am pleased to confirm that Sacred Heart is **not** one of the schools affected, and will therefore be open to welcome our pupils, as planned, on Tuesday 5th September. If your child is starting in Reception, the plans are also the same as explained at the end of the Summer Term.

I hope that this provides reassurance, and we look forward to welcoming your child to our safe and secure learning environment.

### **A Reminder of the arrangements for the Start and End of Day**

From Tuesday 5th September the children will have “soft starts” to the day. This means that the gates and school doors will open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am for all children. They can make their way to their classrooms, from 8.40am to begin introductory activities with their teacher. At 8.50am the gates will close and registers will be taken and the children will start their formal activities for the day.

Reception and Year 1 children will make their way to the infant building with their parents. Key Stage 2 children will be dropped at the school gates on Daneswell Drive and Danger Lane. From September they will be able to enter the building and their classrooms without lining up on the playground.

At the end of the day, the children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 will be dismissed at 3.25pm.

Reception and Year 1 children will be dismissed from the Infant building. Year 2 will leave from the playground on Daneswell Drive.

Years 3-6 will be dismissed at 3.30pm from the playground on Daneswell Drive. This will be similar to how this is currently arranged. The classes will line up, in year group order, so that the teachers can release them to the person collecting them, in an orderly and safe manner.



## **Mental Health and Well-being**

On Monday 4th September all staff will be in school, receiving specialist training to enable us to enhance the work we do to support pupil's mental health and well-being.

We are looking forward to sharing this work with you as the year progresses and continuing our mission to support our children academically, spiritually, and socially and emotionally.

We are here for you and your child, and as well as contacting your child's class teacher with any queries or concerns the following teachers lead the four stages in the school and will be happy to hear from you:

Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) - Miss Buxton-Cook

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) - Mrs Elcome

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) -Mr Ankers

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) - Mrs Mortimer

If you have any Pastoral, Safeguarding or SEN concerns, please contact Mrs Mullin who will be happy to help.

All the staff at Sacred Heart all look forward to continuing to work with you to support the high academic, spiritual, social and emotional achievements of your child at Sacred Heart.

Kind regards,

Mrs M. Jackson  
Headteacher