

## King Ina Church of England Academy

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KING INA



CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you all had a fantastic summer break and that you and your families are safe and well. We are very much looking forward to the start of a new school year and to welcoming the children back to school tomorrow.

We are delighted to be welcoming Mr Wright, our new Kingfisher Class teacher, and a number of new support staff members who will be working across the academy: Mrs Bisgrove, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs MacKenzie, who will be supporting within our EYFS team, Mrs Hampson who will be working with children in KS1 and Mrs Lewis who will be supporting children in KS2.

We are pleased to confirm that, in accordance with the government road map at step-4, restrictions have been eased within schools and we are no longer required to run class bubbles or to have staggered starts and ends to the school day. The children will be able to mix more freely and play together at playtimes and we will be able to resume collective worship.

We have however reviewed our risk assessments and there are some safety measures that we will continue to follow. These include regular washing of hands, increased cleaning of shared equipment and high-touch areas, ventilation within the school and the staff will continue to take Covid-19 lateral flow tests regularly. We ask that parents wear masks when on the school site, particularly when talking to school staff, who will also be wearing masks. We also ask that parents socially distance when on the school site.

Children should only attend school if they are well and are not displaying any symptoms of the Coronavirus: a cough, temperature or loss of taste or smell. Should your child become unwell at school, please note that you will be asked to come and collect them immediately. Your child will be able to return to school following a negative PCR test result. We ask that you provide evidence of their negative result before they return to school.

Contact tracing will now be carried out via the NHS test and trace process and not by schools. NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and their parents to identify close contacts. Children who are identified as close contacts of a positive case will no longer need to self-isolate, they will instead be advised by NHS Test and Trace to take a PCR test and can continue to come to school as normal.

It is important to note that should positive cases substantially increase within school, we may have to temporarily reintroduce safety measures to help break chains of transmission. We will of course keep you well informed should this be the case.

Below is a reminder about our plans for the start and end of the school day now that we are not operating bubbles. We would like to encourage as many children to walk, cycle and scoot to school daily:

### **Start of the day:**

- The gate will open at 8.35am for an 8.50am registration, allowing 15 minutes for all children to come onto site.
- KS2 children can walk onto the school site either with parents or by themselves and go directly up to classrooms.
- Reception and KS1 children coming to school by foot should be brought onto site by parents and taken directly to the classrooms.

- The Kiss and Drop will be operational between 8.35am and 8.50am and the children who arrive by car will go straight to classrooms once they have been dropped off. We are allowing a 15-minute window for parents to drop children at the Kiss and Drop. To avoid queues, we recommend that you do not **all** arrive at 8.35am but instead arrive at intervals throughout the 15-minute time slot.

#### **End of the day:**

- All children will finish school at 3.15pm.
- KS2 children can walk home by themselves if they have permission to do so.
- KS2 children who are being collected by parents on foot, will meet parents at the main gate.
- Reception and KS1 children must be collected directly from classrooms by parents.
- Older siblings who are not walking home by themselves, will meet parents outside the relevant Reception or KS1 classrooms, as arranged with parents.
- The Kiss and Drop will be operational after school too. Children including sibling groups will gather next to the Kiss and Drop, ready for collection **between 3.15pm and 3.30pm**. Again, we are allowing a 15-minute window for parents to collect children at the Kiss and Drop and, to avoid queues, we recommend that you do not **all** arrive at 3.15pm but instead arrive at intervals throughout the 15-minute time slot.

School staff will be on hand to make sure that the children know where to go but we do ask that parents make sure that children know the arrangements for collection so that they know where to go at the end of the school day. Should your plans change during the day, please phone or email the school office to inform school of the changes. Whilst we do have a wet weather plan for the end of the school day, children should routinely bring a waterproof coat to school every day and an umbrella if they would like to. Should they bring an umbrella to school, please provide a carrier bag for them to place their wet umbrella in when not in use.

Please do not worry if you are unsure where you should take your child/ren on the first day as there will be plenty of staff on duty to show everyone where to go. We do ask that you bear with us during those first few days, whilst we settle into our new systems, as it may take a few days until everything runs smoothly. As with all of our systems, we will monitor them carefully and make alterations accordingly.

Please see my letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July on our school website for details about PE kit requirements, equipment that should be brought to school, medication and cycling and scooting to school. Please note that mobile phones should not be brought to school. From September, children should not bring other items into school including sweets/chocolates or cakes for birthdays.

We would like the children to continue to come to school wearing their PE kit on the PE days. Please see below for class PE days:

#### **KS1**

<b>Class</b>	<b>PE Days</b>
Robins	Mondays and Thursdays
Kingfishers	Mondays and Wednesdays
Puffins	Mondays and Thursdays
Goldfinches	Mondays and Thursdays
Pipits	Tuesdays and Wednesdays*
Wagtails	Tuesdays and Wednesdays*

**Please note that children in Pipits and Wagtails classes will not need to come to school in PE kits until the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> September.**

**KS2:**

<b>Class</b>	<b>PE Days</b>
Red Kite	Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Buzzard	Wednesdays and Fridays
Sparrowhawk	Wednesdays and Thursdays
Peregrine	Tuesdays and Fridays
Merlin	Tuesdays and Fridays
Kestrel	Wednesdays and Fridays
Harrier	Mondays and Fridays

Children who are taking part in an after school sport club should wear PE kit to school on those days too.

Swimming lessons at Huish Episcopi Academy will resume for children in KS2 and will start later in September. We will write to you with details in due course.

I will write to you again soon with key dates for the Autumn Term and other information such as our plans for developing our outdoor play areas and adventure playground. In the meantime, we look forward to seeing you and your children tomorrow. Should you have any queries or questions, please email the school on [kinginaacademy@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:kinginaacademy@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

We thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mrs S Svenson  
Headteacher