



Weekly Newsletter

Empathy, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility

8 January 2021

Key Dates This Term**Reception 2021-22 Virtual Open Event**

From Monday 12 October

Closing date for Reception Admissions Applications

Friday 15 January 2021

We come to the end of a week that has been a very anxious and uncertain one for many. I would like to reassure you that schools had no more notice than anyone about the partial closure. We found out at the 8pm briefing, at the same time as everyone else. We sent out the key worker survey on Monday as we were anticipating there might be changes ahead. However, none of us were prepared for the speed at which the changes occurred.

Since that time, our staff-and particularly our teachers-have worked extremely hard to make the best provision that they can for both the children that remain in their classes each day and the children who have been forced to learn from home. We have a very dedicated team of professionals who are doing their utmost to meet the needs of their pupils and also help parents as they are again asked to assist their children to learn from home.

We thank you for all of your kind comments, support and encouragement this week, it has been appreciated and valued.

Term Dates**Open – Tuesday 5 January 2021 (for vulnerable children and children of critical workers only)**

Close - Friday 12 February

Open-Monday 22 February

We are dedicated to supporting our pupils and families during this time. Please do not struggle with anything. We are at the end of the phone or an email and will support as much as we can.

Key Workers

Mrs Horner has worked tirelessly this week to try to accommodate the requirements of all of our parents who are key/critical workers. If you have not been contacted but need a place, please contact the office.

Home Learning

For children who are accessing learning from home for a part or whole of the week, a letter is being sent out today with details of our plans. We have sent it to all families so that you have the information should you need it.

We sent a text about collecting a pack containing an additional exercise book and the materials needed for Maths lessons this week. If you have not managed to collect this, please contact Mrs Horner in the office next week to arrange collection.

Children of Key Workers in School

For children who continue to attend school, we are amending the drop off and pick up times slightly as with fewer children, we no longer need to stagger the times as much. The new drop off and pick up times which will be in operation only during the lockdown period are below. If this poses a problem for anyone, please let us know and we will be able to work around this.

Class Drop-off and Collection Times and Route

Reception Drop-off 8.45am - Collection 3.15pm Path

Year 1 Drop-off 8.50am - Collection 3.20pm Path

Year 2 Drop-off 8.50am - Collection 3.20pm Driveway

Year 3 Drop-off 8.55am - Collection 3.25pm Path

Year 4 Drop-off 8.55am - Collection 3.25pm Driveway

Year 5 Drop-off 9.00am - Collection 3.30pm Path

Year 6 Drop-off 9.00am - Collection 3.30pm Driveway

School lunches for children still in school will be as normal. If your child usually has a school meal, they will continue to do so. Children should wear their **school uniform** to school. We keep the windows open as much as possible in class for ventilation so please ensure your child is adequately dressed. They may want to bring an additional jumper or cardigan. Please ensure that your child has a coat with them. **PE kit** should be sent in on Mondays and taken home for washing on Fridays.

Follow us on Twitter for daily updates about your child's experience at St Chad's
@chadderbox



Reporting Positive Cases of Covid 19 in Pupils

As the country enters this new period of National lockdown, we would like to thank you once again for continuing to wear a face mask and maintaining 2m distancing guidance as you drop off and pick up your children. If your child is continuing to attend school, it is vitally important that you keep children at home when they or any family members have symptoms and use the testing system whenever Covid 19 symptoms are present.

If a child tests positive, you must inform school as soon as possible so that we can contact Public Health, who will then advise the academy if we need to notify or isolate anyone who has been in close contact. If the positive test comes when school is closed on an evening, during the weekend or a holiday period, then please email covid@stchads.trinitymat.org where your email will be picked up.

For children who are at home learning, please still inform us if there is a positive test or if your child is ill for any other reason, we will then be aware of why they are not accessing the home learning set. This can be done by phoning the office during normal school hours.

Winter Weather Procedures

In the event of extreme weather causing the academy to close, parents will be updated in the following manner:

- Academy texting service
- Academy website: <http://stchads.trinitymat.org>
- Calderdale Council's website
- Pulse Radio

Please make sure you check the above and that the academy has your up-to-date mobile phone number so you can receive text messages. If you do not receive a text, and no announcement is made on the website, please assume the academy is open and make your way to school in a safe manner.

When there are difficult weather conditions, but the academy is able to remain open, we will assess the safest way for children and parents to enter and exit the building. In most circumstances, we have to carry out the risk assessment on the actual day, and it may sometimes be necessary to make a decision not to allow access to the playground and/or other areas of the academy's grounds. Any areas which are deemed to be unsafe will be clearly cordoned off. We would ask parents to make sure that they do not ignore these signs and ensure that their children do not go into these areas. The academy will notify parents by text on the day about where to drop off and collect their children from as it may not be possible to collect from the usual place.

Reception Virtual Open Event

Unfortunately, we are unable to welcome prospective parents of Reception Class 2021-22 in to school this year due to Coronavirus restrictions. However, we do want to showcase St Chad's Primary Academy and show you the excellent provision on offer at the Academy. This year there will be a virtual open event. From Monday 12th October, there will be various pieces of information on the website for parents to view and read, including a look inside the building. There is the opportunity to complete a survey to ask our staff any questions that you may have before making an application for admission. Our Early Years Leader is Mrs E Smith and our Reception Class Teacher is Miss B Goulden. Please see the website for further information and to access the survey should you wish to ask any questions. <https://stchads.trinitymat.org/key-info/virtual-open-event/>

You can apply for a place from 19th November and the **closing date** for applications is 15th January 2021.

More information can be found at: <https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/education-and-learning/schools/admissions/admission-process>