

# Sir Martin Frobisher Academy

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Headteacher: Miss Debbie Conroy

Deputy Heads: Mr David Girdlestone and Miss Victoria Higgins



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a safe, happy and relaxing summer and the children are refreshed for the new school year. We are really looking forward to the children's return to Sir Martin Frobisher Academy on Monday. The staff have been working really hard this week to get the school ready for another busy year. We are looking forward to finally opening the doors back to a relatively normal school day.

Firstly, it was lovely to meet our new Reception children and their parents today at our Transition session. Mrs Pickess and her team had a wonderful time meeting you all.

## **Covid-19 response for this year:**

The national picture in regard to Covid-19 has been constantly changing over the summer and you will be aware that restrictions are very much relaxed. However, Covid-19 has not gone away and therefore it is necessary for me to advise you of the school response and actions that will remain in place.

From September 6<sup>th</sup> (and until further notice);

- Children (or staff) with symptoms of Covid-19 and awaiting a PCR result or with a confirmed (PCR) case of Covid-19, **must not attend** school. Suspected cases arising at school will be sent home immediately and a PCR test should be booked.
- To avoid unnecessary absence and isolation children should **ONLY** seek a PCR test if they personally are symptomatic and **NOT** because a family/household member has tested positive. NHS Test and Trace **WILL** advise if they need to isolate.
- School children (and 'double-jabbed' adults) do **NOT** need to isolate unless specifically required to by NHS Test & Trace.
- Face coverings are **NOT** legally required on the site, but this is very much a personal choice for pupils, parents and staff. The wearing of face coverings will be allowed and encouraged for those who wish or need to do so.
- There will be no 'bubbles' and no staggered day – the gates will open at 8:30am for a soft start and breakfast, before school officially starts at 8:45. School ends at 3.15pm. The EYFS door will be accessible for children in the Julia Donaldson Class. The front and back gates will be open for all other children.
- Appropriate enhanced cleaning will take place daily after school.
- Hand and respiratory hygiene routines will remain in place – children **MAY** bring their own sanitiser (for personal use **ONLY**) in the case of sensitive skin or medical need.
- Rooms will be appropriately ventilated in line with government recommendations.

While this set of actions will remain in place, we are very much hoping for a more 'normal' school experience for all the children. However, as always, this is all subject to potential change in the event of the re-introduction of tighter restrictions as a result of a school, local or national level 'Outbreak'.

Despite all this, the restrictions have been lifted to such an extent that you can expect a much less disrupted provision this year. Among other things, children will be able to mix and work with other year groups and classes; we'll be offering a fuller range of clubs; we'll see the return of external visitors; we'll be meeting as a whole school for regular assemblies and we'll be doing our weekly 'celebration assembly'. All in all, we're looking forward to a really positive year.

We hope that you have had sufficient information and communication to enable you to feel confident about the start of this year for your child.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01255 427073 or at [Frobisher.admin@smfa.org.uk](mailto:Frobisher.admin@smfa.org.uk)







Yours sincerely,



Miss Debbie Conroy

## FAQs

**Attendance:** All children should be in school all of the time to ensure that they do not miss out on any learning. If your child is unable to attend school because they are unwell, please contact the school office. Mrs Haven, our Attendance & Pastoral Lead, will be monitoring attendance closely and Penalty Notices will be issued for any unnecessary persistent absence. The Pastoral Team will be available to support any children who are anxious about coming in to school.

<b>I need to stay at home if...</b>					
I have a fever	I am vomiting	I have diarrhoea	I have a rash	I have an eye infection	I have been in hospital
					
A temperature of 38 degrees or more.	Within the past 48 hours	Within the past 48 hours	Body rash with itching or fever.	Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye.	Hospital stay and/or A&E Visit
<b>I am ready to go back to school when:</b>					
My fever has gone down.	I have not been sick for 48 hours.	I have not had diarrhoea for 48 hours.	I am free from itching or fever/seen by a doctor.	I have seen a doctor who says I can return to school.	I have been seen by a medical professional.

**Uniform:** All children must come into school in full uniform. Please see below for an outline of the correct uniform at Sir Martin Frobisher Academy. If a child is regularly without the correct uniform or PE kit, parents will be contacted and our Pastoral Team will work with families to ensure that children come to school dressed in the correct uniform and ready to learn.



**PE Kit & Earrings:** Just a reminder that your child must have their named PE kit in school throughout the week. Please see below for an outline of the school's PE kit.



Earrings must not be worn for PE – if your child cannot remove and replace their own earrings, these should not be worn on PE days.

**Name Labels:** Please ensure that ALL items that your child brings/wears to school are clearly labelled. We cannot return items to you or your child if we do not know to whom they belong.

**Water Bottle:** Please ensure children have their own (labelled) re-useable water bottle every day. Children should only bring non-flavoured, still water into school unless there is a medical plan in place (please contact our SENCo if you believe this applies to your child). Any child who has an alternative drink to water will be provided with water as a replacement.

**Fidget Toys & Other Personal Belongings:** ALL toys and personal belongings, including pencil cases, must stay at home. Fidget toys will only be allowed in classrooms where there has been a specific agreement between the Teacher/SENCo and the parent in response to an SEN or Wellbeing need. We cannot be accountable for loss or damage to personal belongings brought to school.

**Nut Free School:** Please be mindful of the health risk to a number of the children in the school and ensure that all snacks and packed lunch items are 'Nut Free'.

**Healthy Snacks:** I must request that mid-morning snacks be of the healthy variety – this would include;

- fresh or dried fruit/vegetables (eg. Apple, carrot sticks or raisins)
- fruit-juice based snacks (eg. 'Winders')

- bread sticks or crackers
- yoghurt or 'smoothie' sachets
- cheese or cheese snacks (eg. cheesestrings)
- Plain popcorn or rice cakes
- Bread based snacks (eg. teacakes or currant buns)

While some less healthy options (eg. crisps and cakebars) may be included in a packed lunch at your discretion we will be strongly discouraging children from raiding their lunch for such items at snack time.

**Mobile Phones:** We are aware that some children (particularly in Year 6) become the proud owners of smart phones and respect that this is part of growing up in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. However, all phones brought to school MUST be handed to the school office at the start of the school day and retrieved at the end of the day. We can accept no responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones as they are NOT covered by school insurance. Children bringing their phone to school do so at their own (or more specifically, their parents) risk.