



St Mary's C of E Aided Primary School

A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum

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Headteacher: Mrs S Copus B.Ed(Hons), NPQH

13th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, welcome to St. Mary's C of E Primary School! We are delighted that you will be joining our Family in September 2020!

If this is your first experience as a parent at a primary school, it can be pretty nerve-wracking at the best of times and being on lockdown isn't going to make it any easier! For those of you who have done this before, this time will be different due to the situation in which we find ourselves.

Although we have dates in the diary, i.e. new parents' meetings, 'stay and play' dates, sadly these will **not** be able to go ahead. However, we are going to do everything we can to help you and your children settle in and be ready to start school in September.

Contingency Plans

We have been thinking through how we can support you and your children in transition from nursery school to our Early Years in these difficult and unusual circumstances. Exactly what we do will depend on how the world changes in the next few weeks and months, but our first priority is to introduce the staff to you and your children at home via Zoom and begin to make connections that may help during this process.

- 1) We will post your information pack to you. In order not to overwhelm the local post workers, we will probably send them out over a few weeks. **These forms need to be fully completed and returned by post as soon as possible.**
- 2) We will then email you individually to set up an appointment via Zoom to meet you and your child, do a 'Getting to know you' session, and talk about your child's likes/dislikes.
- 3) On our website there will be a virtual tour of the school in action which shows what we do at St. Mary's; you can then discuss it with your child.
- 4) There will be top tips for making your child school-ready that you can have a look at and some tasks to complete.
- 5) There will also be a PowerPoint that we normally show at our 'Meet the staff' meeting for you to have a look at.
- 6) In July and August, we are hoping to invite the children in to school individually to walk around and have a look with parents and a member of staff. This may help as a familiarisation visit.
- 7) We will contact you via class dojo – this is an instant way for a teacher and parent to communicate privately. We will be asking you to take photos of all the important things in your child's life such as favourite teddy, best holiday, your family and favourite foods, etc.

What we need from you at this time:

If you haven't already returned your offer form, then please return it **electronically** to office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk or by post with a copy of your latest Council Tax bill. (We have already received some forms via email, thank you!)

If you have any other suggestions that may help your child, then please do email them to head@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk and we will consider them.

I hope to see you all soon; in the meantime, stay safe and take care.

Mrs. Samantha Copus
Headteacher

