



## St Nicolas and St Mary Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Eastern Avenue, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 6PE

Tel: 01273 454470 Email: [office@stnm.org.uk](mailto:office@stnm.org.uk)

Web: <http://www.stnicolasmary.w-sussex.sch.uk/>

Headteacher Mr D Etherton B.Ed Hons. NPQH

Associate Headteacher Mr A Lincoln

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Rainbow Club families

It has been a privilege for us all to run Rainbow Club for the past few weeks and both staff and pupils have gained a massive amount from the experience. The children have been a credit to the school – worked hard, been supportive of each other and exemplary in their behaviour.

As we prepare to take more children back to school we have thought carefully about how to manage the Rainbow Club and what small changes we need to make for logistical reasons, whilst preserving the amazing family feel that has grown and shone during this difficult time. Our premises and systems have had to change somewhat to accommodate the other children so please read the following information carefully in order to help a smooth transition for all.

Rainbow Club will be re-branded as **Rainbow Class** as of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June in order to bring it more in line with the experience of other children returning to school in the EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6.

Rainbow Class children will be using the classrooms in the top of the Ark as follows:

- Children in Year 2 will be using the former Sea Lion classroom;
- Children in Year 3 will be using the former Seal classroom;
- Children in Year 4 will be using the former Sea Otter classroom; and
- Children in Year 5 will be using the former Seahorse classroom.

Children will arrive between 8.30-9.00am each morning through the main school gate and use the one way system to enter the Ark via the East Door past the castle as marked. A staggered drop-off will remove any anxiety of large amounts of families arriving at the same time. Children who are booked into the Octopus Breakfast Club will enter via the Rainbow Room door as usual and be brought to their classes at 8.45am.

Children will work within their bubbles during the day and undertake the same home learning activities set for those children at home, supported by a teacher plus teaching assistants as usual. They will continue to have an online assembly at the usual time but this will take place in their classrooms. If possible we hope to do some outdoor worship at a careful distance.

During the afternoon they will work on the designated foundation subjects. We will be keeping home learning at school on the days that children are in and so there is no need for them to bring in their home book each day, unless there is something specific which they want to show their teacher/s.

The school day ends between 3.10-3.20pm and the designated pick up point is near the castle. Years 2/3 should be picked up at 3.10pm and Years 4/5 at 3.15pm to avoid congestion. Children attending the Starfish After School Club will be picked up from the Rainbow Room door.

Although children will remain in their bubbles during their learning time and when seated at lunchtime, during playtimes they will be able to mix within the 'Rainbow School' larger bubble in a designated area of the field and playground. The children are used to doing this already and it has been wonderful to see

friendships forming between different age groups. We wanted to keep this 'Rainbow School' feel, however, for safety reasons, they will not be mixing with children from other year groups.

The only exception to this is on a Wednesday afternoon when the main school is closed to all children apart from those from Key Worker families. During Wednesday afternoon, children from Year 1 will join the Year 2 Bubble and children from Year 6 will join those in Year 5. Children from the EYFS will be supported by staff within the EY environment on a Wednesday afternoon and collected from the Nursery exit. This will also be the case for Little Fishes from Key Worker families on a Thursday afternoon when the Nursery is closed to others.

Please remember to book your children in via squid for both the club and surrounding services. The cut off time for booking is now earlier (by 5pm 2 days prior to the day) in order for us to have sufficient time to plan for the children's needs effectively. Please remember that this service is only available for key worker and vulnerable children and pupils should be kept home safely if there is a parent there to look after them where possible.

### Organisation

Children in Years 2-5 will be allocated their own peg and we thought it would be easier for them to have a back pack (if possible) or a larger bag than a book bag to keep their belongings all in one place. We would be grateful if your child can bring in the following:

- Plimsolls or trainers;
- Due to government guidance we can no longer allow children to bring in pencil cases from home but will be providing equipment for each child;
- A named water bottle;
- Packed lunch if not having a hot lunch; and
- Please ensure your child is wearing sun cream and has a hat if hot.

We have a designated staff team who will be running the Rainbow Classes made up from teachers and teaching assistants from Years 2-5. Children in the EYFS will also be supported by EYFS staff on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. I will be taking responsibility for the overall organisation and running of Rainbow Classes from a Senior Leadership perspective so please feel free to catch me on the gate or email me via the office if you have any questions or concerns.

Everyone on the Rainbow Team is very excited about the up-coming weeks and we look forward to continuing to support you in your vital roles as key workers.

Best wishes

Dr Victoria Bishop

Assistant Headteacher