

# Important Information for Parents with Children to Returning to Pre-School in Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic

Updated January 2022



We reminded parents that children returning **MUST** be coming from a household that has been following the government guidelines on testing, social distancing and keeping safe.

Please find below the practical information on returning to Pre School.

Obviously, this information is subject to change as government guidelines change in this fast moving situation. Please be aware that we have no advance information on changes and find out about them at the same time as the public.

Thank you so much for all of your support over the past months. It has been great to see how the children have progressed during this difficult period and despite everything you all seem to have had a lot of fun.



1. Transport

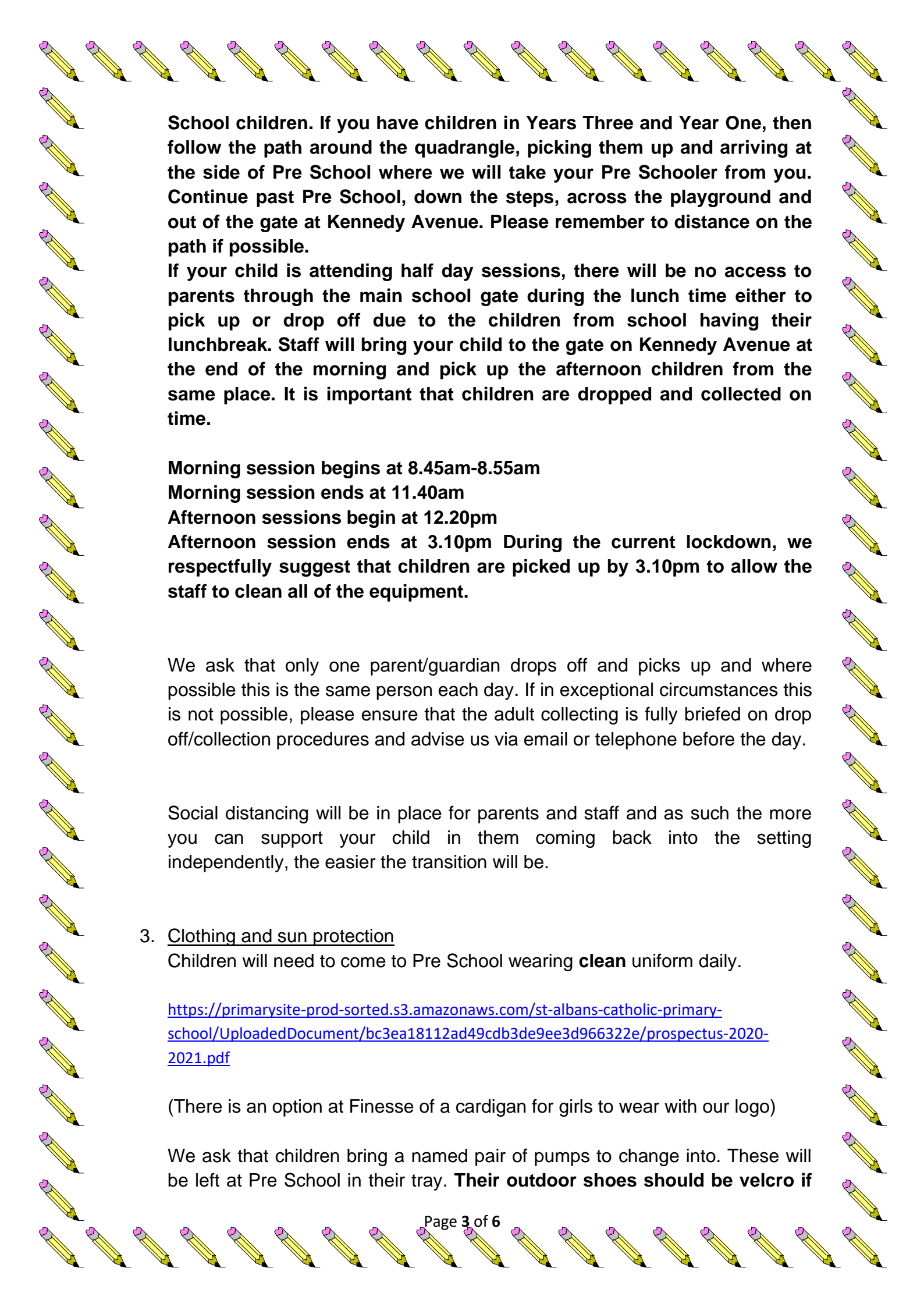
Parents are advised to avoid using public transport where possible when coming to Pre School and instead travel by car, walking or cycling. If however your only option is to use public transport then we ask that you adhere to the social distancing rules.

2. Drop offs and Pick ups

We are working closely with school to try and ensure the safety of all the children on the St. Alban's site. Whilst we have this plan set in place please bear with us and we will notify you if there are any changes.

**Due to the change in requirements for face masks to be worn, we would ask, that were possible, you continue to choose to wear a face mask when moving around the school grounds.**

**Access to Pre School is via the Main School path. Please follow the one-way system, cutting into the Pre School Area if you only have Pre**



**School children. If you have children in Years Three and Year One, then follow the path around the quadrangle, picking them up and arriving at the side of Pre School where we will take your Pre Schooler from you. Continue past Pre School, down the steps, across the playground and out of the gate at Kennedy Avenue. Please remember to distance on the path if possible.**

**If your child is attending half day sessions, there will be no access to parents through the main school gate during the lunch time either to pick up or drop off due to the children from school having their lunchbreak. Staff will bring your child to the gate on Kennedy Avenue at the end of the morning and pick up the afternoon children from the same place. It is important that children are dropped and collected on time.**

**Morning session begins at 8.45am-8.55am**

**Morning session ends at 11.40am**

**Afternoon sessions begin at 12.20pm**

**Afternoon session ends at 3.10pm During the current lockdown, we respectfully suggest that children are picked up by 3.10pm to allow the staff to clean all of the equipment.**

We ask that only one parent/guardian drops off and picks up and where possible this is the same person each day. If in exceptional circumstances this is not possible, please ensure that the adult collecting is fully briefed on drop off/collection procedures and advise us via email or telephone before the day.

Social distancing will be in place for parents and staff and as such the more you can support your child in them coming back into the setting independently, the easier the transition will be.

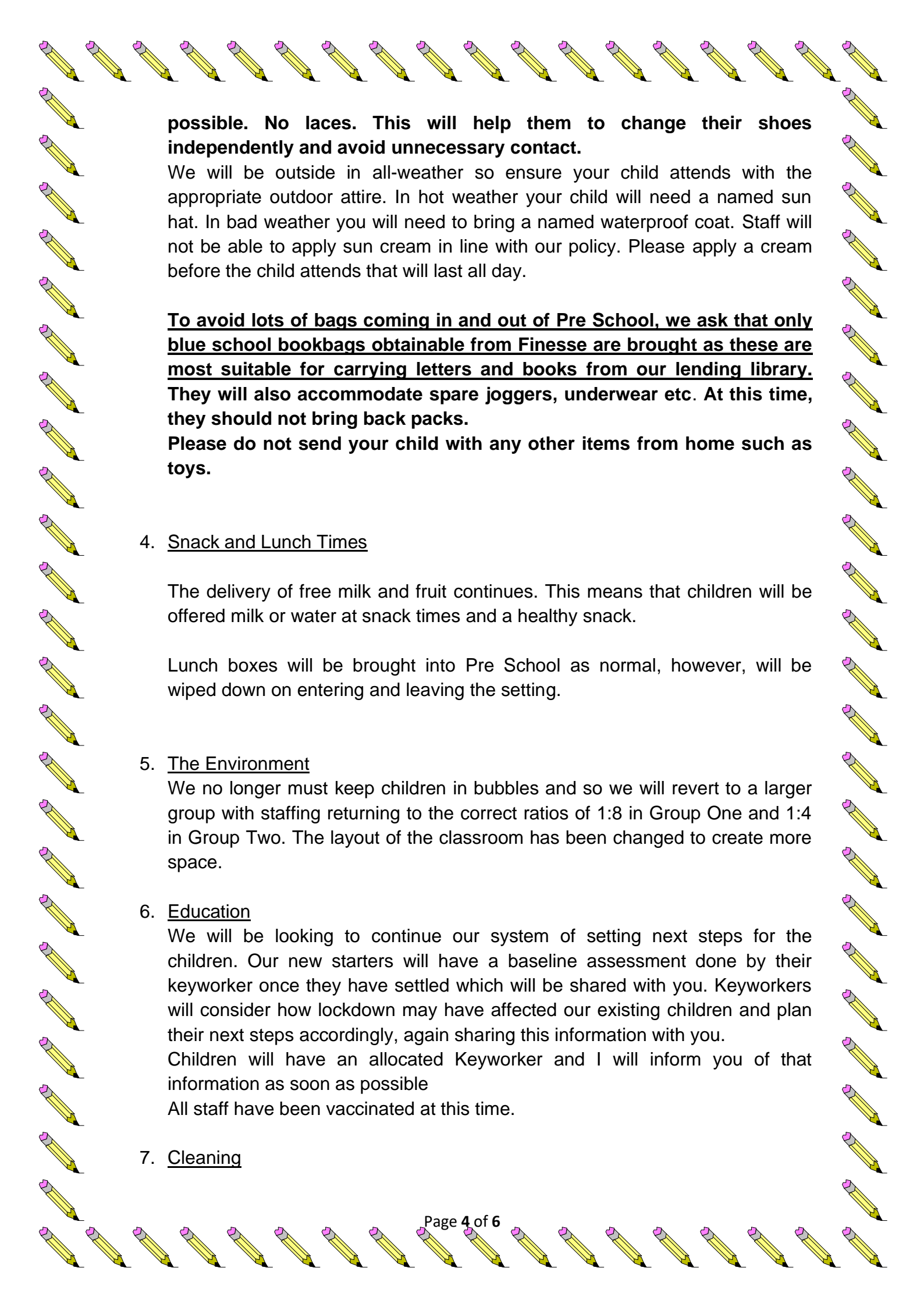
### **3. Clothing and sun protection**

Children will need to come to Pre School wearing **clean** uniform daily.

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/st-albans-catholic-primary-school/UploadedDocument/bc3ea18112ad49cdb3de9ee3d966322e/prospectus-2020-2021.pdf>

(There is an option at Finesse of a cardigan for girls to wear with our logo)

We ask that children bring a named pair of pumps to change into. These will be left at Pre School in their tray. **Their outdoor shoes should be velcro if**



**possible. No laces. This will help them to change their shoes independently and avoid unnecessary contact.**

We will be outside in all-weather so ensure your child attends with the appropriate outdoor attire. In hot weather your child will need a named sun hat. In bad weather you will need to bring a named waterproof coat. Staff will not be able to apply sun cream in line with our policy. Please apply a cream before the child attends that will last all day.

**To avoid lots of bags coming in and out of Pre School, we ask that only blue school bookbags obtainable from Finesse are brought as these are most suitable for carrying letters and books from our lending library. They will also accommodate spare joggers, underwear etc. At this time, they should not bring back packs. Please do not send your child with any other items from home such as toys.**

#### 4. Snack and Lunch Times

The delivery of free milk and fruit continues. This means that children will be offered milk or water at snack times and a healthy snack.

Lunch boxes will be brought into Pre School as normal, however, will be wiped down on entering and leaving the setting.

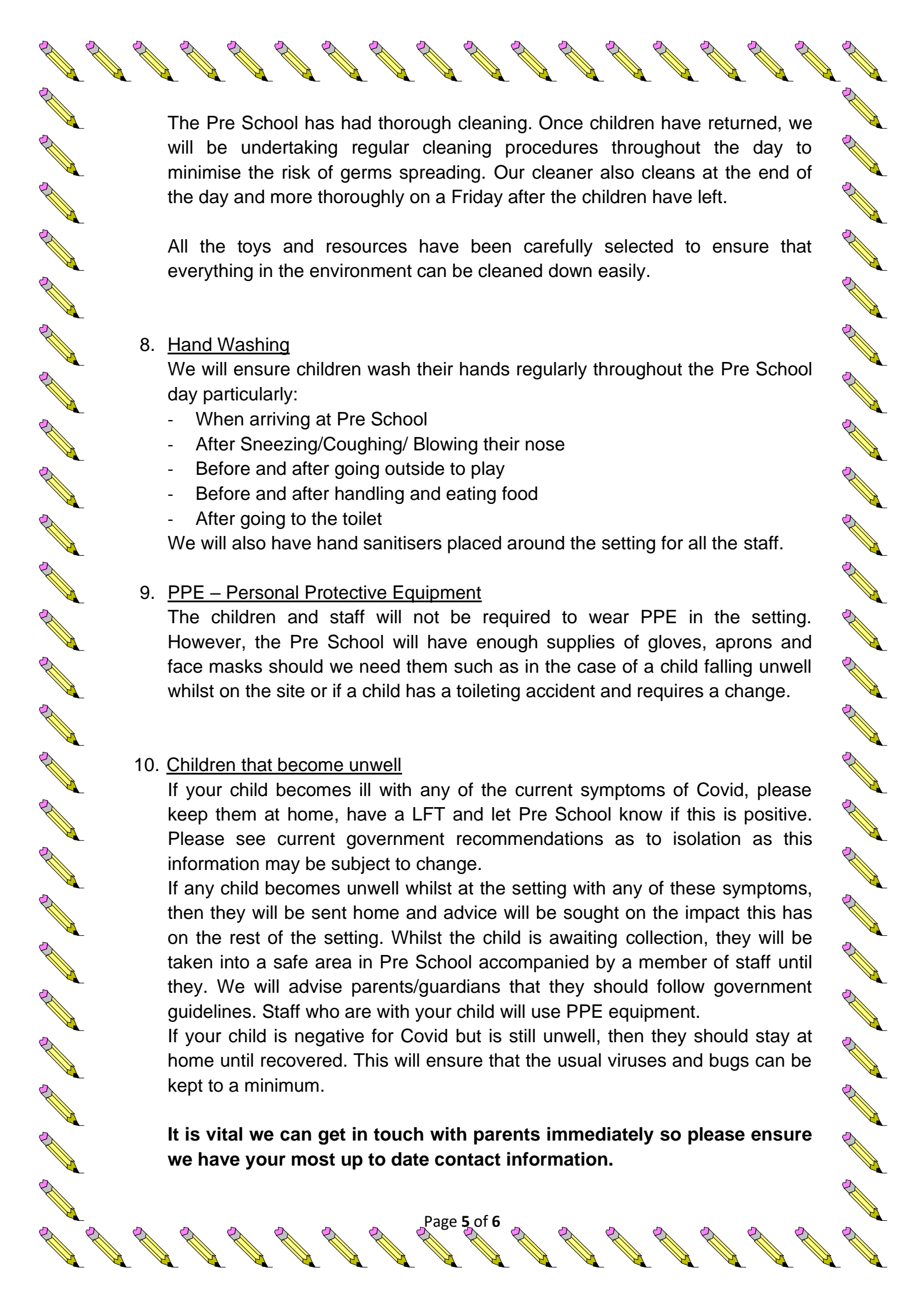
#### 5. The Environment

We no longer must keep children in bubbles and so we will revert to a larger group with staffing returning to the correct ratios of 1:8 in Group One and 1:4 in Group Two. The layout of the classroom has been changed to create more space.

#### 6. Education

We will be looking to continue our system of setting next steps for the children. Our new starters will have a baseline assessment done by their keyworker once they have settled which will be shared with you. Keyworkers will consider how lockdown may have affected our existing children and plan their next steps accordingly, again sharing this information with you. Children will have an allocated Keyworker and I will inform you of that information as soon as possible. All staff have been vaccinated at this time.

#### 7. Cleaning



The Pre School has had thorough cleaning. Once children have returned, we will be undertaking regular cleaning procedures throughout the day to minimise the risk of germs spreading. Our cleaner also cleans at the end of the day and more thoroughly on a Friday after the children have left.

All the toys and resources have been carefully selected to ensure that everything in the environment can be cleaned down easily.

8. Hand Washing

We will ensure children wash their hands regularly throughout the Pre School day particularly:

- When arriving at Pre School
- After Sneezing/Coughing/ Blowing their nose
- Before and after going outside to play
- Before and after handling and eating food
- After going to the toilet

We will also have hand sanitisers placed around the setting for all the staff.

9. PPE – Personal Protective Equipment

The children and staff will not be required to wear PPE in the setting. However, the Pre School will have enough supplies of gloves, aprons and face masks should we need them such as in the case of a child falling unwell whilst on the site or if a child has a toileting accident and requires a change.

10. Children that become unwell

If your child becomes ill with any of the current symptoms of Covid, please keep them at home, have a LFT and let Pre School know if this is positive. Please see current government recommendations as to isolation as this information may be subject to change.

If any child becomes unwell whilst at the setting with any of these symptoms, then they will be sent home and advice will be sought on the impact this has on the rest of the setting. Whilst the child is awaiting collection, they will be taken into a safe area in Pre School accompanied by a member of staff until they. We will advise parents/guardians that they should follow government guidelines. Staff who are with your child will use PPE equipment.

If your child is negative for Covid but is still unwell, then they should stay at home until recovered. This will ensure that the usual viruses and bugs can be kept to a minimum.

**It is vital we can get in touch with parents immediately so please ensure we have your most up to date contact information.**

11. Parent and Staff Communication

Face to face communication between staff and parents will be minimal. Therefore, we strongly suggest that any conversations/questions are either held via a phone call, email or through the Facebook page.

Facebook: St Alban's Pre School  
Phone: 01625 431929  
Email: stalbanspreschool1@gmail.com

We will not be allowing any non-essential visitors on the site until further notice.

I hope that this has clarified our plan for providing a safe and secure environment in Pre School and that we can work together to continue to keep our children and staff healthy.

