



St Michael's CE Middle School

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Headteacher: Mr D Ayling BSc Ed(Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Paul Andrews BSc (Hons)

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to St Michael's Middle School.

We sincerely hope that you and your children have thoroughly enjoyed all of the transition experiences so far, and that you are both looking forward to and excited about this new chapter in their education. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you on **Monday, 8th September**, for the first day of school. This letter is to clarify the arrangements for the start of term and some other useful information.

Arrival and Departure from school

With our close links to St Michael's Church, we are incredibly fortunate to have been offered a special 'Backpack' blessing and welcome service by Vicar Suzanne. If you would like to attend this unique event, please come with your child to **St Michael's Church at 8:45 AM** for the service. Following the blessing, there will also be an opportunity for parents to enjoy tea and cakes, and to chat with key members of the St Michael's staff, as well as get to know other parents in Year 5.

For those who do not wish to attend the church blessing, please drop your child at the **pool gate entrance at 9:30 AM**, where they will be warmly met by another member of staff.

From Tuesday, pupils in Year 5 should be dropped off at Gate 1 (gate next to The Reef) and walk themselves down to the swimming pool gate and onto the playground. We ask that parents do not come onto the school site in the morning unless they are coming through gate 2 to go to the school office.

On Monday, 8th September, pick-up will be slightly earlier, mirroring the transition day arrangements. We kindly ask that you collect your child at **2:45 PM from the pool gate**. Moving forward into the Autumn term, please continue to collect your child at **3:15 PM from the pool gate**. This arrangement will continue until the end of the first half term, allowing us to keep all of the children safe and for a calm transition into middle school. For safeguarding reasons, please do not come onto the playground when dropping off or collecting your child.

Before and After-School Provision

We have had enquiries from a number of parents regarding the provision for before and after school supervision. If you are intending to use this facility, it will be available from the first day of term, Monday 8th September. The information for this provision is shown below:





- The before-school provision starts at 7.50 am. Pupils should go to the main school office on arrival at school and wait to be collected by a member of staff. They will join pupils on the playground from 8.20 am when the school site opens for all pupils. Please note that we do not currently offer breakfast during this provision.
- The after-school provision starts at the end of school (3.15 pm) and runs until 4.30 pm. Pupils should report to the school library to meet the supervising member of staff. Parents arriving to collect their child from the after-school club would report to the school office.
- To book your child into either provision, please follow the instructions that will be sent to you in the week before the children come back to school.

Arrangements for food at the start of the term

You will be contacted by the school in the week before your child returns to school with information on how to set up a ParentMail account. Through ParentMail, you will be able to access a Caterlink account for your child and to put credit onto their account for them to purchase food from the school canteen. Please note that if your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium payments, they will have an amount credited to their account.

Pupils will be able to purchase food from the first day of term by saying their name at the tills. Shortly into the term, pupils will be issued with a payment card that will link to the Caterlink till system.

If you are unable to set-up your account or do not receive an email before the start of term, please send your child in with a packed lunch for each day until the account is active.

Pupils do not need to use the school canteen and are welcome to bring a packed lunch if they prefer.

Second Hand Uniform

The school passes on its second hand uniform to The Reef Youth Centre for use in their used uniform sales. The sales will take place throughout the Summer Holiday break on a Wednesday between 11 am and 1.30 pm. If you have any surplus first school uniform, they would be most grateful for any donations (which can be left in the collection box in the reception area of The Reef).

We have attached the slides that were used on the 'New Parents Welcome Evening' held on July 10th. These slides contain further useful information for the start of the term.

We are truly excited to embark on this educational journey with your children and look forward to a successful and enriching academic year.

Kind regards



Mrs. Holmes - Head of Year 5

Mr. Ayling - Headteacher