



# *Sacred Heart RC Primary School*



*Co-Headteachers: Mrs S. Walker and Mrs J. Botham*  
*Knutsford Road, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7NJ*  
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*[www.sacredheartschool-gorton.org.uk](http://www.sacredheartschool-gorton.org.uk)*

## *‘Where Every Heart is Sacred’*

Monday 10th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have enjoyed a lovely two weeks with your children having been gifted with the odd day or two of early summer sunshine! Of course, we celebrated the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 7th, a feast very close to all of our hearts. Guided by the light of Christ, we remember that every heart is sacred and every human being on earth deserves to be treated with the utmost respect in accordance with the teachings of the Bible.

You may remember that I wrote to you earlier in the year asking for your opinions on how school communicates with you with regards to your children’s learning journeys here at Sacred Heart. I am pleased to inform you that the vast majority of parents are happily accessing our newsletters and website via their phones therefore we will continue to use these mediums as our main method of virtual communication. Some parents told us that they would like to understand more about our school curriculum so we have produced a new overview format for next academic year in addition to the detailed information that is already available in the curriculum section of our website: <https://sacredheartschool-gorton.org.uk/curriculum/>

Today, I am writing to you with regards to the timings of our school day from September 2024. You may have heard that the government recently published a white paper in which it asked schools to deliver a minimum school week of 32.5 hours by September 2024. This applies to pupils in KS1 and KS2 only; it does not apply to children in Nursery or Reception classes. The guidance only applies to mainstream, state-funded schools so not all schools will be advised to change the hours of their school days.





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## What is the plan for our school from September 2024?

Year Groups	Classes	New Start Time	New Finish Time
EYFS	Nursery & Reception	8:45am	3:05pm (unchanged)
KS1	Classes 1, 2, 3	8:45am	3:15pm
KS2	Classes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	8:45am	3:25pm

These changes will help us to meet the requirements from the Department for Education whilst also allowing us to continue with staggered finish times in order to allow parents and carers to collect children from different classes on time as well as helping to distribute the flow of traffic more evenly in our local area. We will need to close the school gates promptly at 8:55am from September 2024 so please make a note of this in preparation for next academic year. The amount of time children get for break and lunchtimes will not be reduced.

## What next?

I appreciate that these changes may affect you in terms of childcare or working arrangements, and that you may have questions that you would like to ask. For these reasons, I would like to invite you to ask me any questions when you see me in person or complete this Google Form if you envisage any issues for you or your family relating to a slighter later finish for KS1 and KS2 children from September 2024. If you would like to complete the survey, please do so before 12 noon on Tuesday 16th July to allow adequate time for these changes to be implemented from 3rd September 2024.

<https://forms.gle/KUT4LPPhbw1mYP6V7>





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I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to complete school surveys and, more importantly, for the warm and friendly interactions we share at the school gate in the morning and at different points throughout the school day, for example when you come to support your children in their class assemblies, when you celebrate Mass with us and when you join us at parents’ evenings and information workshops. We are blessed to have such a vibrant and diverse school community, full of good people who want the very best for their children.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs J. Botham

Co-headteacher

