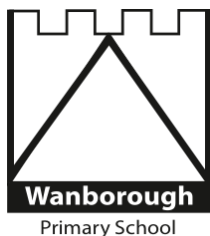


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Wanborough Primary School  
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21<sup>st</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents

I hope that you are having a restful summer break and that this letter finds you and your families well (particularly those who have endured the recent exam result stresses) please pass on my sympathies and hopefully congratulations to any former pupils of the school.

In line with the full re-opening of schools this September I felt it was important to let you know of the measures that Wanborough Primary School will be taking to keep our staff and children safe when we do re-open. This is based on the current government guidance which was last updated in early August.

The Prime Minister recently reinforced the need for schools to re-open to all and we as a school have been working hard to ensure that all children and staff can return to school in September, ensuring that our school environment is as safe as possible, and whilst no school can guarantee absolute safety, the evidence now suggests there is a very low risk to those of school age and no heightened risk to those working in schools.

Given the improved situation, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of all children returning to school. We have completed a comprehensive Risk Assessment for the school which has been approved by the Health and Safety team at Swindon Borough Council. As detailed below and in our full Risk Assessment, we have taken preventative control measures, as detailed in the Government's guidance, to ensure that we have taken steps to effectively reduce risks in our school. I have below followed the same order as the Government's system of controls, many of which were already embedded in school in the summer term when we successfully and safely welcomed back pupils:

- 1. Any pupils or staff displaying symptoms will not attend school:** no-one who is ill should attend school, and if anyone in school becomes ill they will be isolated, given any first aid treatment as necessary and will need to be collected as soon as possible.
- 2. Increased hand washing:** we have a large number of places for children to wash their hands and have installed extra hand sanitiser stations in classrooms.
- 3. Good respiratory hygiene:** 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' will continue to be the message to all pupils, staff and visitors to school. There will be tissues in each classroom and pupils are requested to have their own supply also.
- 4. Enhanced cleaning:** our cleaning and school staff will conduct additional cleaning of all frequently touched surfaces; toilets will be cleaned throughout the school day and there will be disinfectant to clean desks, equipment etc. Class staff will regularly clean during the school day.



## 5. Minimising contacts between groups:

- Consistent groups reduce the risk of transmission so we will be keeping classes separate and creating seven 'bubbles' in school.
- At break and lunchtime each year group bubble will have their own designated area of outside space where they can play and socialise. Children will be outside as much as possible as this significantly reduces the risk of transmission of the virus. Breaktimes will be staggered.
- Where possible there will be a marked area at the front of each classroom ensuring that staff are two metres away from the children.
- Classrooms have been rearranged, where possible, so that all children in Key Stage 2 will sit in rows facing the front.
- All lessons will continue as normal and adaptations have been made in the curriculum for some subjects to ensure that the systems of control are adhered to. Practical parts of lesson will be heavily minimised and other forms of work introduced.
- Childrens' behaviour will be very important. I am sure they have become accustomed to the "new normal" but all physical contact between children will be discouraged and we will ask children to socially distance whenever physically possible, even in their bubbles when outside the classroom. This will be reinforced by our behaviour policy and those consistently and purposefully breaking the rules will face the appropriate sanctions.

6. **Use of PPE:** PPE is not needed in schools, unless a member of staff is dealing with a child or member of staff who has become ill in school.

7. **Response to any infection:** The school intends to engage fully with Public Health England with the track and trace system to ensure that any outbreak is contained and mitigated. This will be supported by the control measures we have taken and the 'bubble' system.

**I have attached to this letter 'Guidance for parents and pupils to support returning to school: COVID-19' which is a useful/more user friendly way to discuss the practicalities you and your child will experience upon their return to school.**

**The full government guidance on the re-opening of schools can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>**



In addition I have extracted the following sections below which clarify matters relating to attendance.

### **Attendance expectations**

In March when the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was increasing, we made clear no parent would be penalised or sanctioned for their child's non-attendance at school.

Now the circumstances have changed and it is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

### **Pupils who are shielding or self-isolating**

We now know much more about coronavirus (COVID-19) and so in future there will be far fewer children and young people advised to shield whenever community transmission rates are high. Therefore, the majority of pupils will be able to return to school. You should note however that:

- a small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves; or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1 August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding. Read the [current advice on shielding](#)
- if rates of the disease rise in local areas, children (or family members) from that area, and that area only, will be advised to shield during the period where rates remain high and therefore they may be temporarily absent (see below).
- some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment). You can find more advice from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health at [COVID-19 - 'shielding' guidance for children and young people](#)

Where a pupil is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice, we expect schools to be able to immediately offer them access to remote education. Schools should monitor engagement with this activity (as set out in the section below).

Where children are not able to attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised.

We understand that some of you and your children will be anxious about returning in September, after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking exceptional measures to make our school as safe as can be. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for all pupils, and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. Although very many of our pupils have worked hard using our remote learning resources provided by our dedicated teachers, we are fully aware that learning and social interaction with their peers and teachers has been lost.

More details will follow in due course, but for now I hope that the transition back to school will be assisted by the information provided above and below. It is likely there will be further government updates in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Andy Drury



# A reminder of arrangements for September 2020

The start and finish times for each class for **Term 1** will be as follows:

Class	Start	Finish
Reception	8:45am	2.45pm
Year 1	8:20am	2:50pm
Year 2	8:20am	2:50pm
Year 3	8:30am	3:00pm
Year 4	8:30am	3:00pm
Year 5	8:40am	3:10pm
Year 6	8:40am	3:10pm

Parents with more than one child will be able to drop off and collect at the earliest times any of their children need to start / finish. Teachers will be in rooms ready from 8:15am and all children should be collected on time. Parents will only need to do one lap of the school following the one way system dropping off in the order of classrooms - 3,6,R,1,4,2 and finally 5.

Parents accompanying one child to school should ensure children do not arrive on the site no earlier than a couple of minutes before the start time as children will be walking straight into class. From the second week (September 7<sup>th</sup>) all Key Stage 2 children will enter the school gate (where Mr Drury stands) on their own in the mornings (unless with younger siblings / parent.) Pick-ups and drop-offs will be with one parent/trusted adult for all years excluding Reception (for the first two weeks of school).

Please note:

- Children in Year 5 and 6 often walk home – this will still be allowed.
- Parents who walk to school are allowed to collect at the appropriate finish times if they are prepared to **wait off site** before re-entering for child number 2,3 or 4!

## A reminder of the Transition timetable for Term 1 2020

	YR Start: 8.45am (except week 1)	Y1 Start: 8.20am	Y2 Start: 8.20am	Y3 Start: 8.30am	Y4 Start: 8.30am	Y5 Start: 8.40am	Y6 Start: 8.40am
Week 1 (W-F) 02.09	Small groups am or pm no lunch  Times TBC	Mornings and shorter lunch  Finish 12.45pm	Mornings and shorter lunch  Finish 12.45pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 1.30pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 1.30pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 1.45pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 1.45pm
Week 2  07.09	Mornings  Finish 12.15pm	Mornings and lunch  Finish 1.30pm	Mornings and lunch  Finish 1.30pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 2.15pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 2.15pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 2.30pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 2.30pm
Week 3  14.09	Mornings with shorter lunch  Finish 1.00pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 2.15pm	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish  Finish 2.15pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 3.10pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 3.10pm
Week 4  21.09	Mornings, lunch and early pm finish.  Finish 1.45pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm
Week 5  28.09	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 2.45pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm
Week 6  05.10	Normal day with light afternoons  Finish 2.45pm	Normal day  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm
Week 7  12.10	Normal day  Finish 2.45pm	Normal day  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day  Finish 2.50pm	Normal day  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day  Finish 3.00pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm	Normal day  Finish 3.10pm