



Waverton Community Primary School

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Learning together. Achieving together.

5th March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Well it is just a couple more sleeps until we welcome all the children back. We are looking forward to seeing them all again on Monday. As I said last week, I'm sure that there will be a mixture of emotions from both yourselves and the children, although we know the importance of children being in school both for their emotional well-being and their educational progress.

Since September, as you know, we have had a few positive cases in school all of which came in from the community. In all of these cases there was no onward spread of the virus across bubbles or across the school, whether the positive case was a child or adult. This tells us that our control measures have been working. We've been working closely with the local public health team to ensure we're following the latest Government guidance and necessary precautions to make our school COVID-secure so we're ready to welcome pupils back. These include the following:

- *Children will be in their class groups throughout the day, including at lunchtimes and playtimes, where they will have their own separate areas.*
- *In most classes the desks will be forward facing with the children sitting in rows facing the front.*
- *Children do not have to socially distance from each other within their bubble, although they will be encouraged to do so.*
- *Staff will be expected to limit their contact with the children and other adults.*
- *There will be regular handwashing throughout the day using soap and water or hand sanitiser.*
- *Enhanced cleaning routines, including regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.*
- *Extra hand sanitisers units have been strategically attached to walls outside all classroom doors.*
- *Particular attention will be paid to ventilation in classrooms to ensure regular circulation of fresh air throughout the day.*
- *The adults working with the children will remain consistent, although there is room in the guidance to allow for staff to work with different classes, which will allow for PPA cover to be similar to how it has been in the past.*
- *Staff will wear masks/face coverings in corridors and communal areas, when giving first aid or if working 1 to 1 with a child and when collecting/handing over children.*
- *Adults attending the site, including parents at drop of times, should wear a face covering.*
- *Twice weekly testing of all staff.*

Home testing for households

If you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil in primary or secondary school you can also get a twice-weekly rapid lateral flow test. You can collect two packs of home test kits at a local collection point, which are open daily from 1pm to 7pm. Households in England with people who attend or work in schools in Wales are also eligible to access these tests. Full details of where you can access a test can be found on the Testing and Self-isolation section of the Government website:

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme

From the 8 March the Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme will be extended to assist parents and guardians whose child is required to self-isolate. This is restricted to one parent or guardian who are unable to work due to caring for a child who is required to self-isolate. For more details go to the 'How to get help' section at: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/covid

Reminders:

We would like to remind all parents of the symptoms of COVID-19:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means the child may have noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child or anyone within your household bubble develop symptoms, please follow the stay at home guidance as set out here and arrange for a test:

[Stay at home guidance](#)

[Arranging a COVID-19 test](#)

If we are notified of a positive case within school, we will notify you by phone or email if your child needs to self-isolate. Remote Learning will be provided in line with our remote learning plan.

[Remote Learning Plan](#)

Although infection rates are coming down gradually in the area, we can all play our part to help reduce transmission of the virus by following these simple measures.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water or hand sanitiser.
- Wear a face covering when entering public indoor buildings or travelling on public transport.
- Make space by keeping a two-metre distance from anyone outside your household, where possible.
- Self-isolate with your household and get a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms by calling 119 or visiting nhs.uk/coronavirus.
- Self-isolate for 10 days if you are a contact of a confirmed case.

Pupils and families are also reminded to follow the COVID-19 safety measures we have in place at our school.

- All adults to wear a face covering when visiting or entering the school/early years' premises including outdoor yard areas.
- Parents/carers to arrive and leave promptly when dropping off/collecting their child – please do not congregate and maintain social distancing as we know that the virus is easily transmitted from person to person.
- Only **one** adult should enter the premises for dropping off/picking up.
- Pupils are to avoid congregating outside school, mixing with pupils from other schools and should go directly home.

Comic Relief

We will be holding a non-uniform day for Comic Relief (Red Nose Day) on Friday 19th March. Children can come to school either dressed in red or wearing a super-hero costume. More details will follow soon.

School Lunches

Please remember to log into your SchoolGrid account and pre-order your child's school meals for next week.

Inset Day

Please remember that the planned inset day on 1st April was used on the 5th January. Therefore the children will break up for Easter **on** Thursday 1st April. You will have received already the amended holiday dates for 2020/2021. A copy can also be found on the school website.

Illness

Can we please remind you that children who have sickness and/or diarrhoea should be kept off school for 48 hours from their last episode. This is following the Public Health Guidance on infection control in schools. If your child is going to be absent from school, please leave a telephone message or email admin@waverton.cheshire.sch.uk before 9am on the first day of absence.

Parent Evenings

Further information will be sent out regarding the Parent Evenings, dates and how these will be conducted – should this be by telephone, we will be using the contact numbers you provided us with back in November. If you have changed your number please let us know. We will be using the School Spider booking system again and we ask that you check in advance that you have your log in details and can access School Spider.

And finally...

I don't under estimate the challenges many of you have faced and are still dealing with. With all the children coming back to school I hope it provides everyone with a much needed lift and a return to some sort of "normality" (not to mention a break from remote learning!). We will do everything we can to ensure that the children feel happy, safe and secure.

Enjoy the weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Talbot
Headteacher