



WESTON TURVILLE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs K Brooks



27th August 2020

Dear Parents,

ARRANGEMENTS for RE-OPENING the SCHOOL in SEPTEMBER

Following my letter earlier in August outlining the arrangements for our return to school in September I am now writing with further details.

The school will open in full on Thursday 3rd September. This means every child is expected to attend on a full-time basis, except the Reception Class who will have their usual staggered entry during September.

Social bubbles

Each pair of classes will be one social bubble (Upper Juniors, Lower Juniors, Classes 1&2, Early Years); they will mix only with each other and will not share equipment with other social bubbles.

Staggered arrival and departure times

Each social bubble will have a set arrival and departure time through a specific gate.

- Pre-School morning sessions, 8.30-11.30am, usual side gate (Lunch Club 11.30-12.15 for those who book)
- Pre-School afternoon sessions, 12.15-3.15pm, usual side gate (Lunch Club 11.30-12.15 for those who book)
- Reception Class, 8.30am to 12.30, usual side gate (moving to 3.00pm from 21st September)
- Classes 1 and 2, 8.30am to 3.00pm, infant playground entrance
- Classes 3 and 4, 9.00am to 3.30pm, infant playground entrance
- Classes 5 and 6, 9.00am to 3.30pm, rear entrance

Your child should arrive within fifteen minutes of the start time.

While you are waiting for the gates to open you are asked to wait in a socially distanced manner. Yellow squares have been provided for this purpose. If you have siblings with two different arrival times please feel free to bring them at the later time if you prefer not to wait. **Do not bring your older child to school early as they will not be able to come onto the site.**

When collecting from the infant playground at the end of the day, parents of children in Classes 1-4 are asked to stand on the playground in the socially distanced squares provided. Staff will release your children to you.

Staggered breaktimes and lunchtimes

Breaktimes and lunchtimes will take place in specific areas at specific times and children will have allotted equipment to play with which is not shared by other bubbles. Fresh fruit or vegetables can be brought into school for children to eat at breaktimes. There will be no hot meals at this time. Packed

lunches will be provided for infant pupils (please ensure you order them using the AiP menu system online) free of charge, and for a fee for junior pupils who order them. All other children should bring their own packed lunch. An allocated Midday Meals Supervisor will supervise each bubble while they are eating their lunch in the classrooms and also on the playground.

Arrangements in the classrooms

Older children will sit in desks facing the front and teachers will teach from the front where possible. Younger children and those with special educational needs will not be expected to socially distance but extra care will be taken with cleaning their equipment. Junior children should bring their own stationery equipment which will be kept in school on their tables/in pouches. **This should all fit into one pencil case and will not be lent to others.**

Some resources, such as ipads, will need to be shared between social bubbles. These will be cleaned between uses. Pupils and staff may take home books for homework and marking but unnecessary sharing will be discouraged.

PE will take place outside when it is dry and in the hall when it is wet. Music will also take place outside, with singing only where social distancing can be fully achieved. This also applies to the use of wind instruments such as recorders.

There will be no large gatherings, such as Harvest Festival, Nativity plays etc but staff will look at possibilities for producing something online for parents to view. Assemblies/Collective Worship will take place in classrooms each day, and once a week each bubble will meet with myself for Collective Worship in the hall.

Extra-curricular clubs will be held in social bubble groups only and the library will be closed. However, there will be a selection of books from the library provided for each class so that children may borrow books to take home. **If you still have school library books at home please send them in with your child at the beginning of term.** Sporting clubs will be available within the social bubble groups but there will be no contact sports.

Shared staff

Almost all staff will be allocated to one social bubble and will remain with it during the school day. However, some members of staff, such as Mrs Ellis, the PE teacher, may teach different bubbles. In these cases staff will observe social distancing from pupils as much as possible.

What to do if you or your child shows symptoms of the virus

Nobody showing symptoms of the virus may attend the site and anyone showing symptoms must take a test as soon as possible. Those developing symptoms while on the school site will be isolated and sent home. As we are entering the cold/flu season it may be difficult to tell the difference between Covid-19 and other illnesses. Luckily Covid-19 does not generally present with a runny nose. The symptoms to look out for are –

- High temperature
- New continuous cough
- Loss of taste/smell

If you or your child shows these symptoms you need to take a test immediately. You can book a test by clicking on the link - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/> or by

telephoning NHS 119. Your family will need to self-isolate until the result of the test is known. If it is positive the sick person will need to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of the symptoms, inform the school immediately and make yourself known to the NHS Test & Trace service. If the test is negative your child can return to school when they feel well enough.

All other coughs, colds and flus can be treated as normal, but hopefully the measures taken to reduce incidences of Covid-19 will help to reduce transmission of other bugs too. **All children and staff are to be offered the flu vaccination, and I strongly advise you to sign your child up for this when the time comes.**

What to do if you have been on holiday to a country which has been placed on the government's quarantine list

If you have been abroad and returned from a country that was put under quarantine measures while you were away you should self-isolate for 14 days and your child should not attend school during this time.

Hygiene measures

Extra hygiene measures will be in place, including the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to coughing and sneezing, and increased use of hand sanitiser/handwashing. Additional cleaning across all areas of the school will help to minimise chances of contracting the virus, and all staff will observe social distancing.

We will be providing hand sanitiser which is readily available to children through dispensers, but children are welcome to bring their own if it is labelled with their name, and if they store it in plain sight of staff and do not lend it to others.

Pupils in the junior classes will use the toilets one at a time and all children will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly.

Face coverings

The government has recently recommended that pupils in secondary schools may need to wear face masks in certain circumstances. This is not the case for primary schools and there are no plans to ask children to wear them in school. Some parents may wish for their children to wear a face mask on the way to school and on the way home but these will need to be removed when the child arrives and placed in a sealed bag. **Visitors reporting the school office should wear a face mask to speak to the office staff.**

School uniform and PE kit

All children will be expected to wear school uniform. Junior aged pupils (Classes 3-6) should come to school wearing their PE kits on PE days and will return in them. This will remove the need to change in close proximity in the changing rooms. Infant pupils should wear school uniform on PE days and will change in their classrooms.

We ask that children come to school wearing clothing appropriate for the weather, including coats, hats and gloves where necessary.

Visitors to the School

We will be very happy to accept parent volunteers into the school to work with specific social bubbles, but those over 70 years or with underlying health conditions are advised to delay until at least the Spring Term.

External specialists, music teachers etc will also be returning but will be observing the same social distancing rules as staff.

School trips

There will be very few school trips. However, where they do take place risk assessments will be provided by the coach companies and the venue, which will include social distancing and additional cleaning approaches.

Year 3 swimming is currently under discussion as we are struggling to put in adequate safety measures, given that we usually share the coach and changing rooms with Aston Clinton School in order to reduce the costs. It is likely that if swimming lessons do go ahead we will need to change the timings so that we do not share the facilities. We will let Year 3 parents know the arrangements once they are finalised. If the children do not swim this term we will find a way to ensure they swim later in the year or even when they are in Year 4 so that they don't miss out.

Local lockdown procedures

If the local area or the school is placed into lockdown and closed by the local health protection agencies you will be asked to keep your children at home. Childcare will be provided for children where both parents are keyworkers and for vulnerable children only, and a remote learning package will be provided by the staff through our recently purchased 'Google Classrooms' app which replaces the Seesaw app used during the recent lockdown.

Parents' Evenings

The parents' induction evenings cannot take place this year due to social distancing rules. However, staff will provide their presentations online. Individual appointments will be held for the Reception Class parents during September and the individual Autumn parents' evenings for all pupils will take place in the classrooms as usual in November with social distancing measures in place.

Talking to staff

Where you have concerns for your child that you wish to discuss with staff you are asked to drop an email to the member of staff, or telephone the office. You can also book an appointment for a socially distanced meeting with the staff after school. **We regret that you will not be able to come onto the site in the mornings but are welcome to approach the office staff to send a message to your child's teacher.**

Catching up

Our children will all have had a different experience of their schoolwork during lockdown and we are aiming to assess them all during September to find out exactly where they are with their reading, writing and maths. Teachers will then plan lessons based on the outcomes of these assessments and most children will catch up quickly. Where children have fallen behind and need more support we will have access to some government funding to provide 'catch-up programmes' and tutoring. During any future lockdowns the aim is to move quickly to remote teaching so children don't miss out on further learning. You will be able to talk this through with your child's teacher at parents' evening.

Government national tests

The government has informed us that they intend to run the National Curriculum tests at the end of the year as follows –

- The Early Years Foundation Stage Profile
- The Year 1 phonics check
- The KS1 tests and teacher assessments at the end of Year 2
- The Year 4 multiplication tables check
- The KS2 tests and teacher assessments at the end of Year 6

They also expect the new Year 2s to sit the Year 1 phonics check during the Autumn Term.

Behaviour

We are currently operating a revised Behaviour Policy for pupils to reflect Covid-19. A copy of the Home School Agreement is included with this letter. It is essential that parents and children understand that deliberately coughing or spitting in somebody else's face will not be tolerated.

Attendance

The government now requires all children to attend school unless they are self-isolating because they or a member of the family have tested positive with Covid-19 or a medical professional has advised against attendance due to their underlying health needs.

The education of all our children has been severely disrupted over the last few months and it is essential for their progress and their health & well-being that they attend school. If you or your child are feeling anxious about the return to school please do get in touch and we will do our best to support you. Last term we found that in most cases once the children had been in for a couple of days they settled quickly and were glad to be back.

There is a great deal of information in this letter and you may have further questions. I have attached the school's full risk assessment with excerpts from the government's guidance in it, but you can also access the latest [school guidance here](#) and [guidance for parents and carers here](#).

We are also happy to answer any questions you may have, so please feel free to ask them. Emails sent to office@westonturville.bucks.sch.uk will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff or you can call 01296 613436 after the start of the school term.

I hope you are enjoying the last of the summer holidays. All the staff are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back next week so that we can get on with the business of teaching and learning, and re-building our happy community. We are especially looking forward to saying hello to our new young Reception Class children and opening our new Weston Turville Pre-School!

See you next week!

Yours sincerely,



Ms K Brooks
Headteacher