

Frequently Asked Questions for September 2020:



We look forward to welcoming all of the children back starting with years 1 and 2 on Thursday 3rd September and Preschool and Reception on Monday 7th September. We have had to make some changes to be able to do this in the safest way possible. We have put together this document to answer any questions you may have about your child's return to school.

Can I choose not to send my child into school?

- The government are clear that from the start of term in September, usual attendance rules will apply.
- Parents who may be reluctant or anxious about their child returning to school should contact the school to discuss their concerns.

Have the start and finish times changed?

To reduce the number of people on the playground and the potential for people stood closer than 1m+ we have staggered the start and finish times. Your child has been allocated one of the following times:

Start	Finish
8:45	3:00
8:50	3:05
8:55	3:10
9:00	3:15

You have received this information by text message before the start of the Summer holidays.

I usually car share with a friend, are we still able to do this?

- We encourage families to walk, cycle or scoot to school if they can and if they live a short distance (2 miles or less) from school.
- If parents and children are car-sharing with someone outside of their support bubble or family, they should share with the same people each time, open the windows for ventilation and wear a face covering unless they are under 11 or they are exempt.

Can grandparents collect their grandchildren?

At this present time, the government guidelines state that two households can meet indoors but social distancing still needs to be adhered to. Therefore childcare should only be provided by grandparents if it is possible for them to socially distance from their grandchildren. If they have formed a support bubble with their grandchildren's household, which is allowed if either the parent or grandparent live in a 'single adult household', then there can be close contact and social distancing is not necessary.

How will children be grouped and where will they be?

- Children will be taught in whole class groups, in their new classrooms with their new teachers and support staff. Children will remain in their classes and will not mix with other bubbles. They have been allocated toilets and where classes are sharing toilets they will only be allowed in with children from their bubble.

- Each class bubble has their own allocated outdoor area to use. The playground will be used for PE and timetabled activities to ensure bubbles don't mix. The children will be using their own outdoor space for lunch.
- Children are not required to socially distance from other children in their bubble although members of staff visiting these bubbles **will** be asked to socially distance where possible.

Will my child be able to play with their friends?

- Children will get to play with their friends in their own class.

How often will my child be in school?

- From Thursday 3rd September, Year 1 and 2 children will attend school on a **full-time** basis. Our new starters in Reception and Preschool will begin their staggered induction programme on this date. New starter parents have received details of this in a separate letter.
- The only reason we will close any bubbles is if we have a positive case of Covid-19 and we have been advised by PHE to close.
- If a class teacher is ill then we can use supply teachers. These will be teachers that are familiar with us and have worked with us previously.

Will there be before and after school club provision (Bug Club)?

Parents have the option to access wraparound care (Breakfast and After-School Clubs). Please be aware that children from a number of bubbles will be mixing in this provision. If you are using this provision you will now be required to drop and pick up your child from the Bug Club garden gate. There will be a member of staff that will sign your child in and out. If no one is there, please ring the bell and wait behind the yellow line. Parents are not allowed to step over any of our solid yellow lines.

Will my child be accessing the full curriculum?

- Yes – children will be offered a full, balanced and broad curriculum. However, at the start of the term there will be an emphasis on *team building, well-being and catch-up* as part of our Re-Engagement and Recovery Programme.
- We will continue with the bingo grids for home learning and these will be uploaded onto the website and Dojo. Home learning will need to be uploaded onto their child's portfolio and teachers will comment.
- Reading books will be sent home on a Monday/ Tuesday. All books need to be returned by Friday so they can be wiped and stored over the weekend and put back into circulation for Monday. We will not be having reading record books but there will be a form for you to fill in and upload to Dojo and we will keep track of the reading and send certificates virtually when achieved.

Will my child be able to attend after school clubs?

We will not be running any after school clubs in the first half of the Autumn term. We will work with our usual providers to ensure risk assessments and procedures are in place so that they can start up as soon as we feel it is safe to do so.

My child is in year 2, will they be going swimming?

Children in year 2 will not be going swimming during the Autumn term. We will re-evaluate this on a termly basis.

What safety measures will be put in place in classrooms and around school?

Entering and leaving the school site:

- Preschool and Butterflies children will be entering through the car park gate and the other classes through the main school gate. All parents and children are required to observe social distancing. Children will have a staggered start and finish time. We have coordinated these if you have children in different classes. These have been sent to you via text message.
- We ask that only one parent accompany their child for drop-off and collection. Parents and children should avoid gathering on the playground or at the school gates

Visitors to the School Site

- Essential contractors will be allowed on school site but will not be near children.
- Specialist services that support our children such as speech and language therapist and educational psychologist will be coming in to support children.

Parents visiting school

- Parents are not permitted to enter classrooms. Where possible, communication with the school should be through telephone or email. For non-urgent messages Class Dojo can be used.
- Information which will normally be shared in meetings with parents, will be sent electronically e.g.
- Parents will not be invited onto site for 'live' class assemblies and school performances until further notice. However, we will be posting assemblies on Class Dojo.
- We won't be having any parental volunteers in school until further notice.

Social distancing

- Children are not required to socially distance within bubbles, but there will be social distancing between bubbles on the school site.
- There will be no mixing of bubbles and staff will not be mixing across year groups unless socially distanced (2m).

In the classroom

- The children will be sat so that they are side by side and not facing each other.
- Teachers will be giving children verbal feedback as much as possible.
- Where possible, doors and windows will be open for increased ventilation. Parents should ensure that children are dressed in suitably warm clothing.

Uniform and Resources:

- Children are expected to wear full school uniform.
- For the first half term all PE will be outdoors. On PE days the children need to come to school in a PE kit such as tracksuit and trainers.
- Where possible, children will be provided with their own individual resources.
- Children will only be permitted to bring 'essential items' into school e.g. a book bag (containing: reading book), coat, lunchbox, and water bottle into school. They will store their belongings in the cloakrooms allocated to their bubble.
- There will be no sharing of resources between classes unless it has been washed at a high temperature or left to stand for the required time.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- It is highly recommended that children under the age of 11 do not wear face coverings. Therefore we will require parents to remove face coverings from their child before they enter the school building.
- PPE may be worn by staff administering first aid or providing personal care.

Hygiene and Cleaning:

- Children and staff will continue to wash their hands on entry to the building and regularly throughout the day. Small children and those with complex needs, will continue to be supported to wash their hands properly. Each classroom has a sink for handwashing and hand gel. Children should not bring their own hand sanitiser into school.
- Children will be taught to use the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to respiratory hygiene – lidded bins and tissues will be provided in every classroom.
- There will be increased cleaning of the building, particularly pupil areas, at regular intervals during the school day.
- Resources that are used frequently will be washed at a high temperature once a week.

Illness

- If your child is unwell we request that you keep them off of school. We have an app called Study Bugs which we will continue to use. It is helpful to parents as it gives you guidance on what your child's illness might be but also extremely helpful to school to keep us informed of what typical childhood illnesses are going around. To register go to www.studybug.com. You can log your child's absence with the app instead of phoning the school office.
- All staff will be taking their temperatures before work and anyone with a high temperature will be required to get a test. If a teacher is not able to attend school we will be using supply teachers.

What are the arrangements for lunchtimes and school dinners?

- Children will eat their lunch in classrooms at their desks. Children who qualify for Free School Meals (including the Universal Free School Meals for Reception and Year 1) will be provided with a Deli bag.

How do I communicate with staff?

- If you need to share something urgent, please email the class teacher or contact the school office
- If it is a general enquiry you can message the class teacher on Class Dojo or ring the office.
- Some of our children we haven't seen since 20th March and therefore know they might be anxious about returning. On Wednesday 2nd September you have the opportunity to have a zoom meeting with your child's new class teacher. This is an opportunity for you to share any information that might help your child to settle. We will send out proposed times with staggered start and finish times. If you can't make that appointment please contact us to rearrange.

How do I communicate with the school office?

- There will be no face-to-face contact with the office. Liaising with office staff will be done by telephone calls and emails (admin2410@welearn365.com).
- If a child is late they will have to wait for a member of the office to greet them at the gate and take them round to their outdoor classroom doors. Office staff will fill in the late book.
- If you need to collect a child before the end of the school day the office will walkie talkie down to classrooms once you have come in through the gate. The teacher or teaching assistant will meet you at the classroom door.
- We will be remaining paper free so all communications will be via email, text message, website and Class Dojo.
- We will be cash free.

How will I know if my child has had an accident at school?

We will not be sending home first aid slips. If your child has had an accident we will send a message through Class Dojo.

What do I do if my child is well enough to be at school but on medication?

You will be required to download a medical form from our school website. Fill it in and email it back to the school office and class teacher. You will need to measure out the required dose into a syringe and watch your child hand this to their teacher at the classroom door.

What if a child/adult displays symptoms of Covid-19 when in school?

- Following government guidelines, **individuals who are displaying coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or have someone in their household who is displaying symptoms, should not attend school.** Individuals who have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) should not attend school for 10 days following a positive test.
- If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 10 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.
- Staff members and parents/carers must be ready and willing to:
 - [Book a test](#) if they are displaying symptoms.
 - Provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
 - [Self-isolate](#) if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
 - Inform the school immediately of the results of a test
- If someone tests negative, they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can return to school. Proof of a negative test will be required by the school office.

What if a child/adult in school tests positive for Covid-19?

- If someone tests positive, they should follow the '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.
- Where a child or staff member tests positive, the school will work with the health protection team to carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate. **In most cases, this will mean that the whole of their 'bubble' will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.** Household members of those contacts who are sent home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the child, young person or staff member who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms.
- If schools have two or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected, this will be classed as an outbreak. In the case of an outbreak, health protection teams may recommend that a larger number of other pupils self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – this may be the whole school population.

What Home Learning opportunities will be provided to children who are required to self-isolate?

- Remote education will be provided to all children who are self-isolating at home and we will continue to use Class Dojo.
- If we 'Lockdown' again we will continue with the fortnightly home learning and phonics grids.

I still have another question?

We want all of our school community to feel safe about returning to school. Therefore if you have another question please email Mrs Lovejoy at head2410@welearn365.com or send a message via Class Dojo.