

Wreningham V.C. Primary School



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Monday 20/7/20

Monday 7 September 2020 School Fully Re-opening

A Summary of the Arrangements for Parents and Families

Dear Parents,

I know parents and families may have many questions about the reopening of school in September. The school has used the Government Compliance code to complete a comprehensive risk assessment. This is available to read on the school website - *click on the Latest School Newsletter and COVID19 Info*. To help parents and families understand the actions we are taking to keep everyone safe and our expectations of everyone, the information below summarises the main points in the risk assessment and the key requirements that parents must follow to be compliant with the UK Gov. guidance documents.

When will the children start back at school?

Children in Years R to 6 will start back at school on Monday 7th September. (Half-term holiday: Thursday 22 - Friday 30 October 2020)

What measures are in place to reduce significant gatherings of parents and children at the start and end of school?

We have staggered the start and finish times to reduce parents gathering at the school gates.

Drop off time:

Class 1 & siblings 8:40AM (8:30 onwards is fine for new reception children). Parents must use the top entrance (nearest the main school building).

Class 2 & siblings 8:50AM Parents use the top entrance.

Class 3 & siblings 8:40AM Parents use the far entrance (village hall entrance).

Class 4 8:50AM Parents use the far entrance.

Pick up time:

Class 1/Year R - 12PM – The top school gate will be unlocked, and the new Year R children will be guided to parents

Year R pupils staying all day (by prior arrangement) will be collected at 3PM at the top entrance

Class 1/Year 1 pupils and siblings – 3PM top entrance.

Class 2 and siblings 3:10PM top entrance

Class 3 and siblings 3PM far entrance

Class 4 3:10PM far entrance

Only 1 adult from each family to bring children onto the school site

If a family has two children in different classes, drop off would be at the earlier start time of the two siblings and at that designated entrance e.g. a family with a cl.2 and a cl.3 child would drop both children off at 8:40 at the far entrance. The same principle applies to pick up times.

Parents using the top entrance must exit through the staff carpark. Parents using the far entrance must not go beyond the orange fencing.

It is essential that all children arrive and leave at their designated start or finish time.

The school gates will be locked by 9AM and late arrivals will enter through the school entrance foyer. Only one parent per family is allowed in the foyer at one time.

Please note, ordinarily the teaching staff would happily engage in conversations with parents at drop off/pick up time. However, to stop parents gathering, we are unable to do this and we ask parents to leave the school premises quickly. Any queries can be addressed through emailing the school office or by going to the main school entrance and reception. **Parents will not be able to enter the school building or classrooms.**

Do children need to wear uniform?

Yes – school uniform will resume from September. The exception is on the days your child has PE. On these days, children should come to school in their PE kit (including trainers) and will remain in their kit all day:

Cl.2 Thursday; Cl.3 Wednesday; Cl.4 Monday and Friday (e.g. this means on Monday 7 September Cl.4 children will arrive back in school wearing their PE Kit). Class 1 will not need a PE kit in the first weeks of the term.

The compliance document states there is no need for anything other than normal personal hygiene and washing of clothing following a day in school.

What will happen at lunchtime?

For the first full week back children will need to bring a packed lunch as there will be no hot school dinners. From the second week onwards, hot dinners will once again be available. Key stage 2 pupils will eat their lunch in their classroom. A menu will be published on the school website in September so parents can choose specific days to have a hot school dinner. There will be meals provided for pupil premium children in this first week. The cost of school dinners is £2.30. Dinner monies must be paid weekly in an envelope with the child's name and the amount it contains. Dinner monies to be posted in the outside school letterbox by the clothes bank on Mondays.

Children can bring a piece of fruit/ healthy snack for playtime, their own drink bottle, and their packed lunch. Children must not share food and drinks.

Children must NOT attend school if they have ANY cold or flu symptoms, or feel unwell This is critical. The school will be quick to ring parents if a child is not feeling well and parents will need to collect their child promptly. This will help keep all the other children and staff safe. It is essential we have the correct contact details and if they change, you must inform the school.

Staff and pupils are required to have immediate tests if they show symptoms. **If a child is sent home with symptoms, we expect parents to arrange a test for the child.** We will request evidence of a negative test result (i.e. the text message from the NHS) before the child is allowed back to school. Any child who displays any symptoms of Covid must be collected immediately. When the child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to the main school entrance/ foyer where they can be isolated (the front door will be locked).

What if my child, or one of our family members, becomes ill?

If any child in school tests positive for Covid-19, every child and member of staff in **their class bubble** will be required to self-isolate for 14 days. If the child also attended the wraparound care group led by Jody, the other children in this extended group would also have to self-isolate.

Children must also not attend school if they, or anyone at home, has suspected Covid-19 (most likely symptoms are a persistent cough / fever / loss of sense of smell or taste). If a member of a child's household tests positive for Covid-19, the child and the household members must self-isolate for 14 days. Please follow the self-isolation information and call 111. The other children and staff in the child's group do not have to self-isolate.

Can my child wear a face mask in school?

The government guidance states that wearing a face covering or face mask in school is not recommended so children should not arrive at school wearing one.

What will the children need to bring from home?

Children can bring in a bag from home now (no big bags please!) but we ask that children only bring what is necessary. Pupils should have their own resources including stationery (pens, pencils etc.) which will remain in school as children are not allowed to share equipment. Year R children can bring a favourite comforter/ soft toy in.

Reading books can be sent home. They will be cleaned after they have been returned and will only be permitted to go back onto bookshelves after 72 hours.

How will the school make sure children are socially distant with each other?

Children have been organised into class-sized bubbles that will stay with each other for most of their time in school. Playtimes will be staggered so that fewer children are outside the classrooms and the playground will be zoned with each class having their own area to access at different times. This way, class groups will not routinely mix with each other. Each class group will have their own play equipment.

Children will not move around the site as much as they used to, however the toilets present a logistical problem! *We have timetabled each class for using the toilets throughout the day, but we recognise that children may need to go outside these times. Staff will supervise pupils (as far as practicable), leading them to outside the toilets, preventing the mixing of children from different class bubbles and ensuring hand washing is done thoroughly.*

We recognise that social distancing with children in a small school is a challenge so we will remind them regularly about it, and, with the younger children in particular, we cannot guarantee that it can be maintained. The government guidance states that schools do not need to insist on social distancing with the younger children. We want our children to learn through play and interaction with others.

What hygiene measures are in place? What are you doing to keep the school clean?

Two key measures to help prevent the spread of the virus is personal hygiene and environmental cleaning. Children are expected to wash their hands multiple times throughout the day; members of staff will be available to support and supervise handwashing where it is appropriate, and we have signage in all the toilets and sink areas about good handwashing. The school has purchased handwashing troughs which have proved a success in each class.

In addition to our excellent Norse cleaner, staff will be cleaning their classrooms throughout the day and are also rostered with a schedule of midday cleaning to complete in the school.

Attendance at school is not only encouraged but also expected from September. We are sure most children and families will be happy to return to school. However, we also recognise this might be a tricky time for a few children. If you have concerns or worries about issues which may impact on your child's attendance, please email the school now, or in September, so that we can support your child getting back into school.

What will the classrooms look like?

The classrooms do look a bit sparser than they usually do as unnecessary furniture and objects have been removed creating more space and facilitating cleaning. In class 2, 3 and 4 the desks have been arranged so that they all face the front.

And Finally ...

By following the guidance in this letter, you are helping ensure all children, parents and staff are kept as safe as possible. As we reach the last day of term of what I imagine has been the most challenging of times for us all, I wanted to write to thank parents for their commitment, support and kind words of encouragement. Throughout very uncertain and testing times, I am proud of the way in which our school community has embraced the challenges of distance learning alongside juggling their own busy work schedule and family commitments.

Wreningham Primary staff are very much looking forward to welcoming you and your children back in September.

I hope you have a fantastic summer holiday. Stay safe.

Mr. Jones