



~ Every Child Matters Every Day ~

Warstones Primary School
Warstones Road
Penn
WOLVERHAMPTON
WV4 4LU

Tel: 01902 558787 Fax: 01902 558788

e mail: warstonesprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

www.warstonesprimary.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Fiona Feeney

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Dear Parents

The new school year.

I do hope everyone has been able to have some rest and recuperation this Summer. It has been a holiday like no other, with so many different restrictions and constantly changing guidance, but we hope that it results in us being able to start school in September and try to bring some normality back for our children and all families. We are so looking forward to seeing everyone again!

As has been clear over the last few weeks, Covid cases can flare up and localised lockdowns occur. There has been a lot of concern raised in the news as to how the return to school will impact on transmission rates. I want to assure you we are putting in every safety measure we can to ensure that we do our best to avoid any outbreaks here. We have created class and year group bubbles with allocated staff to try and keep the normal curriculum going, including subjects that involve different teachers or year group sessions such as PE and creative subjects. We have created timetables for staggered toilet, play and lunchtimes so children have regular comfort breaks within their bubbles and plenty of opportunities to wash their hands. Sanitisers are available at entrances for adults visiting, a new barrier at the office to protect transmission at the hatch and additional cleaning of toilet areas in the middle of the day as well as at the end. Classrooms have been set up to meet the guidance expectations as far as possible. Our rooms are very small and, as we discovered over lockdown, they do not allow for social distancing once we go above 8 children! So to be back to 30+ and all the staff is a challenge but we will rise to it as best we can, with each classroom having additional cleaning materials to use. We await the advice on use of masks in school, but staff may be wearing them at entrances to school.

But we need your support if we are to keep everyone safe. Although the Government assures us that children are at very low risk of spreading or catching the virus, staff and you the parents, are at a higher risk, particularly at the start and end of the day when there are naturally a number of adults on site bringing and collecting children. Guidance advises that no other adults should come on to the school site but with our grounds and considering where our entrances are, that becomes impractical, especially for our youngest children. We put together a staggered system during the partial opening that worked well so we have developed it for September, as mentioned in the end of year letter and also found below. **It is vital that we keep to this timetable if we are to keep all the adults safe as well as the children. Your child cannot enter/leave through the allocated doors at other times as another year group bubble will be using it.** If you know you are going to be late with good reason, please phone school and we will try and arrange a different way in, but all staff are allocated to bubbles so we do not have staff able to walk children who are regularly late round to their classrooms or stay with them if you are late picking up. Children cannot enter or be collected from the office anymore if they have missed their slot. Just as before, children who are regularly late to school/being picked up, will be referred to our Family Worker, Mrs Gleeson and the Attendance Officer if necessary, to see if there is support needed.

Obviously we do not know how well it will work with everyone back and it may need tweaking as we go along, so please bear with us if we have to make changes. The time slots for each year group are short, but we were conscious that around half of our children have siblings in school so we do not want parents having to wait around for long periods of time between the different start times. Also it is important that we do not have people congregating at the school gates waiting to come in. The staggered start will hopefully also help with parking, but can I please remind everyone that you cannot park in Billy Wright Close. It is a private road and we have numerous complaints from the residents, housing association and police. To get everyone in EY/KS1 in on time, please do keep moving round the one way system and not arrive early and wait around the doors. Any messages can be phoned, e mailed in or written down and put in the tray the teacher will have at the door.



Please make sure you use the correct gate and route round school. EY and KS1 should use the top gate to walk around school for entrance only, no exit. You must use the one way system. In the morning, KS2 children should walk in by themselves from the pedestrian gate as there will be staff around to help them. Please do not wait around the gate to watch them in as this will create a crowd. Likewise at the end of the day, to avoid crowds on the pavement, please do come on to the playground and stay socially distanced to pick up your child. Please keep to the school side of the playground so parents walking round the school can walk behind and also leave the site safely. **Exit can only be out of the Car Park gate.** With so many people on site needing to keep socially distanced, please can we insist that **only one parent comes on to the site when dropping off/picking up children** and that all children, including siblings, stay next to you at all times so as not to break into another family bubble. In the same vein, please can we ask for children to dismount scooters or bicycles outside school and not ride them on the school site.

Year	Start	Finish	Ent/Ext door	Year	Start	Finish	Ent/Ext door
Tweenies	9.10am/12.40pm	12.10/3.40pm	Nur/TW door	Year 3	8.45am	3.10pm	FaF door
Nursery	8.50am/12.30pm	11.50am/3.30pm	Nur/TW door	Year 4	8.45am	3.10pm	Ramp
Reception	9am	3.20pm	RMR Recep door RAC Recep door	Year 5	8.35am	3pm	Ramp
Year 1	8.35am	3pm	Y1/Recep door (by RMR) (Exit for 1JL from Y2 door)	Year 6	8.35am	3pm	FaF door
Year 2	8.45am	3.10pm	Y1/Recep door (by RMR) (Exit for 2CW from Y2 door)				

Lunchtimes are going to be another area where we have to take special measures. To stagger times for children to go into lunch as normal would mean we were having lunch for most of the day! For those who have school dinners, we have worked with the contractors, Shires, to provide as much of the normal menu as possible. For the first week, all those who have school dinners will have a choice of packed lunch while we ensure the systems we have in place work and also to enable us to send out menus for you to discuss with your child what to order from the following week onwards. We need to preorder meals so we do not hold more food than necessary and ensure food is distributed to the right places at the right time. After that, Years 1-5 will be able to have hot dinners or chose a packed lunch using the two halls for eating, while remaining in their year bubbles. The two Reception classes will swap alternate weeks between having hot dinners or packed lunch one week and packed lunches the other week in their classrooms. Year 6 will have the offer of the deli menu or packed lunches also in their classrooms. The packed lunches provided consist of a choice of sandwiches, crisp/snacks, fruit and a cookie/cake. You are still welcome to send in your own packed lunches as normal, but can I urge everyone to consider opting for school dinners/packed lunch (£2.50 a day, free for Recep/KS1)? Over the last few months, this has been a difficult time for the caterers and they have already had to reduce staff. If we want to continue to have school dinners offered at school we need to make it cost effective. Shires have tried to support school and the children through lockdown and the partial reopening and it would be good to support them now.

Please can we ask that each child has their own **named** water bottle in school so they also have a drink at lunchtime. We cannot keep the cups used at lunchtime or in the classroom sterilised or provide one of each child without them getting muddled! If you have no waterbottle we do have a supply in school for only £1.

The Office is open but we need to restrict the number of people entering as it is such a small space. If at all possible, please e mail or phone with any enquiries and avoid coming into school at all. There is a reminder of the e mail addresses you can use below. If there is no other option, please use the ramp to enter and the steps to leave. Only one person in the entrance area at a time, please queue on the ramp allowing for social distancing and wait for the previous person to leave and go down the steps before entering. As previously mentioned, *no children should be entering or leaving school through the office entrance.* For anybody who was unable to collect the end of year reports, they will be sent home with your child during the first week.

It all seems so official and draconian and I am sorry for that. But we are desperate to have the children back safely and support you all by ensuring that you can return to some sort of normal life pre school closures. It is not the children being in that will cause any issues, but the number of adults from so many different family 'bubbles' all coming together at the start and end of the day, that will cause the virus to spread if we do not take every precaution at these times. So I really do plead with you all to make sure you do your best to work with the guidance and timetable we have set out so we avoid any possible rise in the virus transition. We need your support - for your safety and our staff's safety as well as the children.

With best wishes



EY@warstonesprimary.co.uk KS1@warstonesprimary.co.uk KS2@warstonesprimary.co.uk
DRB@warstonesprimary.co.uk
 General enquiries to the office: warstonesprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk