



The Whartons Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Julia Dickson

The Whartons

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Dear Parent / Carer,

As you are no doubt aware, the government has announced that schools should prepare for all pupils to return full time from the start of the autumn term. It is recognised in the government guidance that: **'younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group'** and that: **'all teachers and staff can operate across different classes and year groups in order to facilitate the delivery of the school timetable.'** For the full guidance, see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

In addition to following the stringent hygiene systems of control for the prevention of infection, the government have stated that schools should (where possible):

- Group children together in consistent 'bubbles e.g. in classes/year groups
- Avoid contact between groups
- Arrange classrooms with forward facing desks*
- Have their staff maintain distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible

***Parents/carers should be aware that it is unlikely we can achieve this in our Reception and some KS1 classrooms due to the provision required and classroom layout. Pupils with additional needs in KS2 may also need to be seated in a group arrangement during certain lessons, to enable them to be effectively supported.**

Because of the necessity to stay largely in class groups and for children not to mix wherever possible, we will not be able to 'buddy-up' Y6 children with new Reception starters as lunchtime buddies. Hopefully these will be able to go ahead later in the year.

In planning to safely open school to all our pupils, and to adhere to the guidance as much as possible, we have made slight amendments to the school day for different groups of pupils. As stated in the guidance: **'staggered start and finish times should not reduce the amount of overall teaching time'** and we have therefore, in addition, condensed afternoon playtime to allow for this.

The organisation in the table below is intended to keep groups apart as they arrive and leave school, and to account for the layout of classrooms in school, particularly in KS2:

	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Start time	9.00am	8.45am	8.55am	8.55am	8.45am	9.00am	8.45am
Finish time	3.15pm	3.05pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.05pm	3.20pm	3.05pm
Enter/Exit	Reception Fire Exit Door	Y1 Fire Exit Door	KS1 Cloakroom	Y3 Fire Exit door	Y4 Fire Exit Door	Y5 Fire Exit Door	Y6 Cloakroom Door
Entrance/Exit Gate	Upper KS1 playground gate	Lower KS1 playground gate	Lower KS1 playground gate	Back Car Park Gate	Upper KS1 playground gate	Back Car Park Gate	Back Car Park Gate





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It is vital that these times are strictly adhered to and that parents and carers leave the school site promptly after drop-off and pick-up. If you need to stay on site to pick up a sibling at a later time, social distancing must be observed. The government guidance also asks us to remind parents not to gather at the school gates and that otherwise coming onto the site without an appointment is not allowed.

We are intending to offer wraparound care again in the autumn term, through both Breakfast Club and Whartons' After School Club (WASC). This will begin on 8th September. If you have not already requested places please contact the office. After school extra-curricular clubs will not commence immediately however. This is to ensure we follow government guidance around minimum mixing of bubbles.

Please be aware parents **will not be able to enter/park in the school car park** even for Breakfast or After School Club. In the case of an emergency where school have called parents to pick up an ill child, they will be met at the gates and let in.

Although school attendance will be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term, we recognise that there will be anxiety about a full-time return to school. In some cases, alternative arrangements may need to be put in place to facilitate a successful return for individual pupils and we will work together to support those families who require this.

I have attached a Re Opening Phase 2 Policy documents which explains in depth the processes and protocols which will be in place to keep children and staff safe. Please take your time over the summer holidays to read this in depth. I hope it will answer any questions or concerns you have.

As always, I will update you if/when we have any further information to share; this may be during the summer holidays so please check your emails regularly. In the meantime, I hope you all stay safe and well and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in the week commencing 7 September 2020. (Please note that Monday 7 September is a training day).

Kind regards,

Julia Dickson (Headteacher) and The Whartons' Team

