

Windmill Hill Academy

Inspiring Passionate Life-Long Learners

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Wednesday 20th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for promptly completing the survey regarding pupils beginning to return to school from 1st June.

As I previously said, we are committed to re-opening the school in some form, where it is appropriate and safe to do so.

We have followed DfE guidance, completed risk assessments and checklists and considered staffing levels. We are focusing on protective measures, where possible. We look forward to seeing many children return to school but must make clear that we cannot guarantee that children will social distance. It is for you, as parents/carers, to decide if you would like your child to return to school. The decision to send your child is, in the end, yours and the government will not penalise anyone choosing not to yet at this very early stage.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that the guidance states that the following groups of students and staff will need to continue to work from home:

1. Students and staff who are classed clinically vulnerable. The conditions that put you in this group are listed in section 8 in this guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing#clinically-vulnerable-people>
2. Students and staff who are classed as clinically extremely vulnerable or live with people who are classed at clinically extremely vulnerable. These people are defined in this guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>



For those who do return, school will operate as follows:

- We will not open school on a Monday except to key worker children or vulnerable children who have pre-booked.
- Staff will use Mondays to put home learning on ClassDojo and prepare the week's learning in school. We will be open from 2nd June to pupils wishing to return to school in Years F, 1 and 6. Pupils in these year groups will be offered two days schooling a week.
- We will split each class into an A group and a B group. We will endeavour to do the same with the staff. Pupils will be organised alphabetically and groupings will be confirmed once replies have been received and staffing confirmed. Group A will be invited to attend school on a Tuesday and Wednesday and Group B will be invited to attend school on a Thursday and Friday.
- Once in school, pupils will be organised into classes with pupils in their year groups with a maximum of fifteen children in each classroom. A staff member will be assigned to that group and will stay with that group. Therefore, for many children this is unlikely to be their actual class teacher.
- The desks will be spaced apart and pupils will stay at these desks during indoor lesson times. We are, however, hoping to do as much outdoor learning as possible.
- They will also eat their packed lunch at their desk. All pupils will be required to bring in a packed lunch in a disposable bag, as well as their own snack and drinks bottle, as part of the preventative measures.
- Breaks will be staggered. Children will go outside for morning and lunchtime playtime but they will only be with the same children from their group.
- There will be staggered start and finish times as below:

Year Groups	Drop off time	Collection Time	Designated drop off / collection point
Key Workers	8:45	3:15	Hall Door
Year Six	9:00	3:00	Main playground Door by Year 4 cloakroom
Year One	9:15	2:45	Year 2 Exit Door
Year F	9:30	2:30	Year F Door

- Only one adult will be able to accompany a child to school. Please queue two metres apart at the drop off door. Leave promptly and please do not congregate on the playground.
- We are aiming to split into smaller groups during the course of the day. We will require 7 classrooms to accommodate the three year groups and the key worker groups. Therefore, this is currently all we are able to offer as we do not have any other spare rooms or enough staff.



- To avoid mixing resources, we will provide your child with a pencil, pen, rubber, ruler in school – please do not send pencil cases.
- All children will be required to wear school uniform. They will need trainers, a waterproof coat, hat and sun cream. Everything should come to school in a large, named plastic bag.
- As stated in the previous letter, the DfE recognise that it is **not possible** for schools to maintain social distancing. Protective measures will include avoiding contact with symptomatic people, frequent hand washing, regular cleaning of premises, minimising contact and mixing, where possible, and by reducing class sizes. It does not advise the wearing of facial coverings. However, we will have some PPE available for staff and it will be up to individuals to decide what they feel is safest.

As previously, if your child or a member of your household is displaying symptoms, you should not bring your child to school. Your household should then isolate for a minimum of 7 days but longer if anyone is still displaying symptoms. **The government have updated symptoms: a new, continuous cough; high temperature; or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia). Anyone now displaying symptoms can arrange for testing.**

For any pupil who begins to display symptoms at school, we will follow the DfE instructions to isolate them immediately. They will remain in isolation supervised by a member of staff provided with PPE and at a distance of 2 meters. Please ensure, if your child is in school, your emergency contact details are up-to-date.

The previous letter was to gain an indication of the numbers returning and, as I said, we will not hold you to this. However, we do need to know if you will be sending your child into school during the week beginning the 1st June. We do not want to be making numerous phone calls to find out where the children are if you are planning on keeping them at home. Therefore, could you please complete the survey via the link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W3MQJKW> by Friday 22nd May at the latest. Please only complete if your child is in Years F, 1 or 6.

Please note, Key worker/Vulnerable children will be kept in a separate group ('bubble') unless they are just attending the two days for their corresponding year group groups if in Years F, 1 or 6. They will be based in the hall/Year 4 Classroom separately from their year groups with rotated staff daily. If you still require or will require key worker/vulnerable child provision, please email windmill@andaras.org.

Should your decision change and you no longer wish to send your child to school, or your child can't come in on an allotted day, you will need to notify the school in the usual ways of absence.

If you have chosen not to send your child currently and, at a later date choose to take up a place, we will need a minimum of a week's notice as rotas and groups will be set on a Friday each week.

Please talk to your child, if they are returning, so they understand the changes that have been put in place, understand they may not be with their teacher or in their usual classroom and will be grouped with a 'bubble' of friends.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Bassett if you have any further questions.



Kind Regards

Miss J Callow

Executive Head Teacher

