

Windmill Hill Academy

Inspiring Passionate Life-Long Learners

Windmill Hill

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Tuesday 21st July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We come towards the end of the academic year and I would like to thank you for your support during this difficult time. It has been lovely to see so many children back in school. The return to school has been extremely positive and children have quickly settled back in and are enjoying being with their peers again. I would also like to thank parents whose children have not been eligible to return to school on the sustained efforts you have made regarding home learning.

As you may be aware, the official guidance for the next academic year has been released and I am delighted that we will be able to welcome every child back to school in September. The process of full reopening will be consistent across all An Daras Trust Schools. The Trust is totally committed to all pupils being able to return to school safely in September. The guidance from the government does make clear that attendance at school is compulsory for every child from September.

We have completed a thorough risk assessment which adheres to the Government guidelines. The full version is available via the school website or ClassDojo. There are a number of operational aspects to this which need to be implemented to ensure that we are first and foremost adhering to the government guidance for safe reopening.

I would like to make you aware of these prior to September:

- From September, each class will be a 'year group bubble'. They will remain with their bubble for all lessons and breaks. The exceptions to this will be children attending breakfast club or travelling to school by a taxi.
- All children will be required to wear school uniform and they will need to bring in a PE kit on a Monday and that it is taken home on a Friday for washing each week.
- Breakfast club will run each morning from 8am. Each year group will have a table where they eat and play to maintain social distancing.
- There will be two staggered start and finish times and different entrance and exit doors as below:



Year Groups	Drop off time	Collection Time	Designated drop off / collection point
Year F	9am	3.30pm	Year F Door
Year 1	8.45am	3.15pm	Year 2 Exit Door
Year 2	9am	3.30pm	Year 2 Exit Door
Year 3	8.45am	3.15pm	Playground Door (by Y4 Cloakroom)
Year 4	9am	3.30pm	Playground Door (by Y4 Cloakroom)
Year 5	9am	3.30pm	Year 6 Exit Door (round the back)
Year 6	8.45am	3.15pm	Year 6 Exit Door (round the back)

- Only one adult will be able to accompany a child to school. Please queue two metres apart at the drop off door.
- Please only arrive at your allotted time, then leave promptly and please do not congregate on the playground or outside the school gates.
- Parents will not be able to enter the school building unless an appointment has been pre-arranged.
- Please also do not touch any outside equipment, e.g. benches, barriers on the train.
- The 'drop and go' traffic system will be back in place in the mornings but please only use during the allotted times and pupils are to wear straight to their entrance doors. Strictly no parking in the car park unless you have a permit.
- It is not recommended for children to wear masks whilst they are in school. If your child chooses to wear a face covering to school, they must follow the process for safely removing and disposing of/storing of upon arrival: *not to touch their face during use or removing them. They must wash their hands immediately on arrival, dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face covering in a plastic bag (provided by parent) they can take home with them and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.*
- We will provide each child with their own pack of equipment for the classroom, such as pencils and rulers, so please do not bring unnecessary items from home.
- Assemblies will take place in year group bubbles in classrooms rather than whole school assemblies.
- We are unable to run after school clubs due to not being able to maintain year group bubbles. This will be reviewed at half term.
- The school staff will be able to move freely between bubbles. However, staff will maintain social distancing and avoid contact wherever possible.
- Pupils will be going up to the next year group as usual.
- The school curriculum, although focusing on core subjects and catch up where required, will still be broad and balanced giving children experiences in all foundation subjects.
- At the forefront of our approach to the return, will be children's well-being, identifying and addressing gaps in learning and resuming school life as quickly as possible.
- There will be staggered breaktimes and lunchtimes where each year group will be allocated a time and area.



- A full hot service for school dinners will be available. Some will eat in the hall and others in their classrooms. *We will be sending out the new menu as soon as it is received by Chartwells.*
- There will be some changes to the layout of classrooms and children will not be working in grouped tables facing inwards. They will instead be forward facing tables.
- We will be establishing and promoting good hygiene routines, e.g. regular handwashing and the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.

Your child must NOT come into school if they have COVID-19 symptoms, or someone in their household does, or have tested positive in the last 7 days. If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, they will be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection'.

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 metres. Please ensure your emergency contact details are up-to-date.

The DfE recognise that it is **not possible** for schools to maintain social distancing, particularly with the youngest pupils. However, the protective measures that have been put in place and listed above are to minimise risk.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

Kind regards,

Mrs A Bassett
Head of School

