

Wraysbury Primary School

September 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

I am writing to share with you our plan for the return to school.

We have held off releasing this in case any guidelines changed, but it looks like we are nearly back to normal from tomorrow 😊

Current Guidance

The DfE aims are:

- to ensure that all children and students can experience as much normality and stability in their education and care settings as possible.
- Maximising face to face attendance in education settings to counter the detrimental impact of the last 18 months
- **Under 18's will no longer be required to isolate if they come into close contact with a positive case.** High numbers of absences in the last school year were due to close contact with a confirmed case, but most pupils who isolated did not have Covid
- **The risks of severe illness from COVID-19 are extremely low in children and young people.**
- Clinically vulnerable children and those children with clinically vulnerable adults in their households will begin to receive vaccinations.

At Wraysbury Primary we have been working hard on our plans ensuring that we:

- fulfil the expectations required of us
- ensure that the safety of everyone is paramount in all our decisions and actions
- continue to provide a high quality, well balanced curriculum to best support our pupils in their education.

Keeping children and staff safe

“All schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. Essential measures include:”

- a requirement that pupils who test positive with COVID stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements

Attendance

All children in Years 1 – 6 will be welcomed back to Wraysbury Primary School from Thursday 2nd September and attendance is mandatory. Reception have their own staggered start and parents have been individually notified of when their child starts.

We support the government guidance which states:

- *parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*
- *schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence;*

- *the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.*



Before Your Child Leaves Home in The Morning

Please check for any of the following symptoms

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to the sense of smell or taste

If any of these symptoms are evident it is advised that you book a PCR test, contact the school office on 01784 482603 or email wraysbury@rbwm.org.uk for advice.

Travel to and from school

We encourage parents, staff and pupils to walk, use a scooter or cycle to school if at all possible. Face coverings are required at all times on public transport. For those who travel on the Borough Home School Transport please adhere to their guidelines which I believe have been shared with you.

PLEASE PARK AWAY FROM THE SCHOOL IF YOU HAVE TO DRIVE AND WALK THE LAST BIT OF YOUR JOURNEY.

Morning Drop Off

Our 3 gates will be open. Please use whichever you prefer.

Please be aware that we are inviting parents to come onto the school site to drop off children for the first 3 days (Thursday, Friday and Monday). Please then try and leave your child at the gate, in order that we can ensure a prompt start to the school day, limit the number of people we are in contact with and encourage independence. Staff will be at the classroom doors to welcome the children in every day. EYFS may take a few extra days to settle in to this system.

End of the day – Collection

Year 6 will be able to use their Gate Pass to exit the school site and make their own way home from 3.10. Gate passes will be issued to commence from Monday 6th. Please email the school if this is a problem for you.

All parents will be able to come onto the school site to collect their children at hometime. EYFS, Y1 and Y2 will collect from their classroom door at 3.00 pm and Key Stage 2 from the KS2 playground at 3.10 pm, there will be markers to show you where to wait.

Year 3 – by the swimming pool fence area

Year 4 – by the sheds

Year 5 – by the playframe

Year 6 – on the tarmac football area

Once you have collected your child, please leave the school site as quickly as possible. Please do not allow your younger children to play on the play equipment.

KS1 PARENTS PLEASE ARRIVE PROMPTLY BY 3.00 AND KS2 PARENTS PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE AT THE SCHOOL UNTIL 3.10.

Year Group	Time and Collection Point
Gap Club	Will be taken to Gap Club/collected by Gap Club staff
Home School Transport	Will be escorted to the bus in Waylands by a member of staff using the single pedestrian gate.
Foundation	3.00 pm Miss Hooker's outside her brown door. Mrs Sadler's in the Foundation Stage area by the blue bi-fold doors
1 and 2	3.00 pm outside the classroom door
3, 4 and 5	3.10pm KS2 playground
6	3.10pm Children with a gate pass will be allowed leave school on their own. Please arrange a meeting point with your child near to the school if they are not walking home. They can be met in the playground too if you prefer.

****Please note we will review the collection arrangements regularly to ensure they are working effectively and we are happy with the safety precautions in place. Please be aware we will make amendments to timings if we feel it is necessary.**

Foundation Stage – during part-time hours

Foundation stage children will start school on part time hours for the first 2 weeks to ease transition to school. Parents will have received a separate letter from the Early Years Team with their timings.

At drop off time please line up with your child at the side gate (front of the school). The class teachers will meet you there and take you down to the classroom. At collection time please wait at the side gate. We will open the gate for you to come down to the classroom.



Reading Books

Please help! We seem to be missing so many of our school reading books ☹ Please send them back in urgently if you find any.



Enhanced cleaning regimes

Since lockdown our school has had enhanced cleaning systems in place and has also been regularly deep cleaned. We have adjusted our cleaning rotas with our site team to ensure that much more cleaning goes on during the school day – with particular attention paid to those surfaces that are frequently touched like door handles. School staff not normally involved in these duties like teachers and support staff have also

been helpful in keeping their own classrooms clean and extra materials have been provided for this purpose. We anticipate these arrangements will stay in place until further notice.

The importance of fresh air

Windows and doors will be left open as much as possible to aid ventilation. Teachers will plan many outdoor learning activities and therefore it is essential that the children come suitably dressed for all weather possibilities.

Activity clubs

Gap Club will be operating for Breakfast and After School Care. Chelsea Football and Street Dance will start in the next couple of weeks as will our Teacher Clubs.

School office

The School office will be open to answer any queries but please be mindful that it is a small area and you may be asked to wait outside if there are too many people in the Office area. Parents should do all they can to ensure that children are not late and that they have all that they need for the day (e.g. packed lunches, kit)

All other communication should be done by telephone or e-mail as far as possible. There will be a post box for you to drop off communications such as clips outside the front of the school.

Communication

Communication with parents is really important to us. We look forward to welcoming you into school soon for Meet the Teacher Meetings, Family Sharing and other events 😊

Behaviour

Our Wraysbury values and ethos remain unchanged, and children are expected to uphold them. We will be revisiting these with the children in the first couple of days and we will send them home for your child to share them with you.



In addition to our Wraysbury school rules **Ready, Respectful, Safe** children must be aware of the requirements in that they must:

- Never cough, sneeze or spit towards another person; catch all coughs and sneezes in a tissue and throw it away (catch it, bin it, kill it), then wash our hands
- Wash hands frequently (including whenever we are asked to), with soap and water for 20 seconds (e.g. by singing happy birthday twice) or with hand sanitiser if soap and water are not available;



School lunches.

We have a full school offer for hot lunches again provided by Caterlink with the normal payment arrangements via the online Scopay System.

Year 3 parents should be aware that universal free school dinners do not apply in KS2 and that payment will be required in advance for all meals booked. Codes for parents who have not set up online payments will come home today. **School lunches are now £2.20 a meal. (Please do not confuse this with Free School Meals for those on lower incomes, this remains in place)**

If parents are unsure about whether they are entitled to free school meals and the need to pay or not they should contact the school office. We are aware that many families' situations have changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore if you could now be entitled to free school meals and the pupil premium funding please contact the school office and we will support you with this or alternatively check on this website: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/rbwm/>

Packed lunches

Please ensure your child has all the cutlery they need and their meal is easy for them to manage on their own.



Availability of water on site

All pupils should have their own school water bottle that is untouched by other children or staff. No water fountains are currently available at school. Water is available in school to refill children's own water bottles. Disposable plastic cups may also be available that should be thrown away after use.



School uniform

It is an expectation that all children will wear the approved school uniform. We expect our children to take great pride in their school and this is reflected in the way they dress for school.

As we are an active school, we encourage the children to have their Wraysbury Primary PE uniform every day so they can join in all the physical activities in practical and comfortable clothing.

Curriculum for reconnection

Whilst we are confident that many children will quickly 'bounce back' after the lockdown last year and the holidays we are aware that there will be some children returning who have experienced bereavements amongst friends or family or who have experienced anxiety or stress during this time.

We have planned a transition curriculum so that work in all year groups will centre on health and wellbeing. We will also have the support of a wellbeing practitioner on the school site

Collective positive mindset – contextualising the lockdown

Our staff do not feel that it is helpful to focus on what has been ‘lost’ during the shutdown. Our staff will remain calm and measured in September knowing that whatever the situation we have the staff with the best knowledge and experience of how to teach, support and help our children in ‘closing the gap’ where required. We will not make our children worry unnecessarily or make them think that things are worse than they are and where issues present themselves our language will reflect our established ‘growth mindset’ philosophy – ‘*you can’t do it yet*’.

Assessment

Class teachers will use their own expertise to establish starting points for each class/group/child in the autumn term and will likely have to take ‘a step back’ in order to help children then move forward with confidence but each child and class will be different. In schools this way of assessing what should be taught next is known as ‘formative assessment’, that is the judgements teachers make on a day to day basis during class work which allow them to assess attainment and progress. In order to strengthen routines, relationships and resilience, it is important that (in a measured supportive way) teachers and children get back to established ways of working rather than spending too long on a formal testing regime, especially when children’s confidence will be low.

Broad and balanced curriculum.

We fully intend to continue with our normal ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects from the start of the autumn term. We will make use of existing flexibilities to begin at appropriate starting points for all our children and this may mean that not all subjects are taught every week or every term.

Pupils with additional needs.

Children with additional needs will be supported by the school inclusion team to ensure a smooth transition when returning to school. In some cases, children with additional needs may require a risk assessment to be completed.

Staff will continue to be responsive to the needs of individual pupils and additional support will be provided where necessary. Small group or 1:1 support will be taking place in the autumn term with the aim of accelerating our pupils’ progress.

Thank You!

Thank you so much for all the support that you have given us over the last 18 months. We are all so excited about coming bac tomorrow and look forward to seeing you all. Do please keep an eye on the Twitter feed and on the Website in the next few days for any important information.

@wraysburyschool

<https://www.wraysburyprimary.co.uk/website/home/337045>