



Watton Westfield Infant and Nursery School, West Road, Watton, Norfolk, IP25 6AU

<http://watton.corvuseducation.com>

Tel: 01953 882669 Fax: 01953 881602 Email: office@westfield.norfolk.sch.uk

Trust Lead: Mrs A Lightbown

Executive Headteacher: Mrs H Kemp

Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re-Opening of Nursery, Reception and Year 1, and to all Children of Keyworkers

I am currently planning our strategy for re-opening these year groups in school from 1st June, if at all possible. There are, as I am sure you can imagine, many considerations and obstacles to navigate along the way.

It is looking like the schooling we will be able to offer will look somewhat different to our usual set-up and so I need you to know a few things:

Your child will be placed in a small year group 'bubble' (Maximum class size 15). They may not be with their usual teachers, but we will try hard to give them a familiar face and continuity

Your child may not be in their friend's bubble. We know many of the friendships and will try to accommodate but it'd be impossible to please everyone in this matter as there will have to be cut-offs to keep bubbles evenly sized.

Children may not be in the classroom or space they knew as theirs. This is because we will need to spread out to reduce risk of infection

There will be greatly reduced access for our youngest children to most of the toys, games and playthings they are used to having free access to, if we are to follow government guidance to the letter, which we must do

A great deal of time will be spent initially trying to reassure, reintegrate, socialise and play safely, getting them eased back in so we can learn. However, with the number of times a day we will need to wash hands, staff clean high use areas and stagger playtimes and lunches, the school day will feel and look different. We will of course try to make it feel safe and a very happy place for them to be!

It is looking at this stage like lunches will be packed only but I wait to hear from Norse caterers for confirmation

There would be a system for arriving and picking up and for accessing the school office which will be different to our usual one to maximise distancing

We will be outside a lot of the time, weather dependant

Please note if a member of staff or child becomes poorly in or out of school, this may mean that class bubble have to self-isolate at home for between 7-14 days. You may be advised to do this at very short notice.



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For Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children (who are not from keyworker families)

It looks as if children will only come to school part of the week as smaller bubble sizes and the lack of rooms and staffing (not all can necessarily return), means we will only be able to offer a Monday and Tuesday **or** a Thursday and Friday. We will not be open on a Wednesday to allow thorough cleaning to take place between the two groups.

We will not be reopening the 2year old Hedgehog Nursery at this time due to lack of uptake. We will review this later this term.

For Year 2 children who are from keyworker families

If your child is in Year 2 they may only attend school if you are a keyworker and we have seen evidence of your employment. Please contact us if we have not already seen this and you intend to return your child to school.

For Year 2 children who are not from keyworker families

Your child may not attend school until further notice. The government hopes they will be given the opportunity to return later this term.

For all children who are from keyworker families

Keyworkers' children may attend school 5 days per week, Monday to Friday. They will be put in a class bubble and stay in that same bubble all week. This may mean they are the only child, or one of very few children, in their class bubble on a Wednesday when we are closed to all other children for deep cleaning.

For all children who are classed as vulnerable (with an EHCP or social worker)

Vulnerable children may attend school 4 days per week, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. They will be put in a class bubble and stay in that same bubble all week. They may not attend school on a Wednesday when we are closed for deep cleaning.

It has been brought to my attention already, that a few parents are not happy about sending their child/ren back due to family shielding, a vulnerability or a concern for safety. They've said they wish to keep them off school at home for now. I respect and understand this decision and remind you that the Prime Minister has said that families who choose to do this at this present time will not be fined or accrue a poor attendance record. However, he also urges that we, as educators, do our very best to get as many of your children into school. I hope it reassures you that over the next few days I will conduct another thorough risk assessment to base our finer plans around so that you know we will be implementing every possible piece of official guidance we can use to keep your child safe.



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Obviously so much depends on whether we will be able to go ahead on the 1st, but to help me plan realistically, and to save a good deal of time and energy at this incredibly busy time, **please would you be able to let me know by emailing office@westfield.norfolk.sch.uk as soon as possible if, at this point in time, you do not wish your child/ren to return to school in early June.** Of course, you may change your mind nearer the time or part way into June and that's your right to do so. We are not here to judge you, so please don't be worried to contact the school to say you won't be coming back. We are simply trying to establish how many of you feel you wouldn't want to return in early June, in case it's of such numbers that it means I can offer more days to the rest and use staff differently. It would be a shame to plan all the bubbles and rotas and then only half turn up!

If you could please let us know by 12 noon on Wednesday 20th May, that would be wonderful.

With my thanks and very best wishes,

Helen Kemp

Executive Head Teacher





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