



Monday 20th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Plans for September

As you will know, the government recently announced that schools will re-open to all pupils in September. Since the announcement, we have been working hard to put together our plans for September based on the Government guidance. The overarching principle in the guidance is to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff, combined with an emphasis on hygiene. Many of the measures that we have in place now will continue into September, so there will not be too many changes to what you have already been used to, if your child has been attending since closure. If your child hasn't been in school, I appreciate there may be some anxieties and so I hope that the following information, together with the Risk Assessment and some FAQs, which can soon be found on the school website, will go some way to reduce anxiety and address concerns.

Arrival/pick up times

- We will still be using multiple entrances and exits.
- **Years 3 and 6** will enter and exit the school building through the main entrance. These year groups should enter the school site via Digby Avenue. The children should wait on the playground in their class fire assembly point and wait for their teacher to come and meet them. For the first few days, your child's class teacher will be out on the playground ready to meet your child.
Year 4 will enter and exit the school building through the fire exit at the end of the year 4 corridor, close to Westdale Lane. **Year 4** pupils should enter the school site via the Westdale Lane gates and wait in the identified class space for their teacher to come and collect them.
Year 5 will enter and exit the school building through the fire exit close to the pond and bike/scooter storage facility. **Year 5** pupils should enter the school site via the Westdale Lane gates and wait in the identified class space for their teacher to come and collect them.

There will be plenty of staff outside to help with directions but it won't take long for pupils to become accustomed to their new routine.

In September, there are clearly going to be a lot more people around the school site; we hope that you will adhere to social distancing. **Please do not come early to school to wait on the playground.** We would like you to arrive at the correct time, the children will be taken into school by their class teacher as soon as possible and parents are requested to exit the school site immediately. Please do not stay on the playground talking to other parents, it's really important that we clear the site quickly.



- Teachers will not be able to receive messages face to face on the playground in the mornings so messages can be emailed/rung through to the office.
- At the end of the day, please arrive at your collection time, collect your child and exit the site immediately.

Class	Start time	Collection time	Entrance/exit
3LM	8.45	3.25	Main entrance
3M	8.45	3.25	Main entrance
4J	8.40	3.20	Year 4 corridor fire exit
4M	8.40	3.20	Year 4 corridor fire exit
5K	8.35	3.15	Year 5 corridor fire exit (by the pond area)
5T	8.35	3.15	Year 5 corridor fire exit (by the pond area)
6AH	8:35	3:15	Main entrance
6R	8:35	3:15	Main entrance

Uniform/bags etc.

- It is still recommended that children limit the amount they bring in to school. A water bottle, lunchbox, PE kit, reading books are all permitted. Please do not send in any toys from home, or attach lots of keyrings to the book bags.
- The guidance advises all schools to return to their normal uniform policies. They state that uniforms do not need to be cleaned more often than usual. We will expect all children to be in correct uniform in September, with sensible school shoes. If you are unsure of the uniform expectations they can be found on the school website.
- Please ensure your child is equipped with their own pencil case to minimise the sharing of resources. Each classroom will be provided with spare pencils, pens, rubbers, sharpeners, rulers etc.

The school environment

- You will be aware that we have been using a 'bubble' system in school to limit contact between groups. The guidance advises that from September we have larger bubbles. These can be class sized or year group sized, depending on what is the best for the children's education. We will be operating year group sized bubbles.



- We need to avoid large gatherings such as assemblies, so we will not be able to offer our usual Friday morning celebration assemblies but will keep this under review throughout the Autumn Term.

Lunches

- Our kitchen will be able to offer a full menu, including hot lunches from the beginning of term.
- Children will also be able to bring in a packed lunch and will eat these outside, whenever possible.
- Years 3 and 4 will eat their school dinner in the main hall (staggered times) and years 5 and 6 will eat their school dinner in the dining hall (staggered times) These shared dining spaces will be 'zoned' so that each year group sits at designated tables.

Cleaning/hygiene

- We will continue to have regular handwashing on arrival and throughout the day. There will also be hand sanitiser in key locations around school and in all the classrooms. This alcohol free 'Serenity' product has been tested and proven to work against enveloped coronaviruses and SARS viruses.
- We will continue to have additional cleaning, during the school day, of touch points, toilets, communal areas and high traffic areas.

Attendance

- You will have heard on the news that from September attendance at school will be mandatory. This means that, from this point on, the usual rules on attendance and lateness apply. Our normal attendance policy will be adhered to.

Illness

- If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss or change in their normal sense of taste or smell they **must not** come to school, or, if they are at school will be sent home and advised to follow the 'Stay at home' guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>



- If someone has attended school and has tested positive for coronavirus the school **must be informed immediately** and swift action will be taken. The local health protection team will be contacted and they will carry out a rapid assessment to confirm who has been in close contact during the period they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate for 14 days. The health protection team will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home.

School Office

- The office will still operate largely through phone calls and emails. Please only come into the school entrance in the case of an emergency.

As I mentioned at the beginning of the letter, I hope this information answers any questions or concerns you may have. However, if you do have further queries, please email office@westdalejuniors.co.uk.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable Summer break and we look forward to welcoming all of our pupils back in September.

With very best wishes,

Mr R Slater
Head of School