

Waterhouses CE Primary Academy

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2nd March 2021

Waterhouses C.E. Primary Academy Information for parents March 2021 Health, safety and logistics

Thank you for all the support that you have provided with the home learning this year, and we appreciate the challenges that you will have faced. As we know returning to school is vital for our children's education and their well-being. We are so looking forward to seeing everyone back with us, returning to a vibrant school community filled with hope, respect, tolerance, understanding and friendship. We are acutely aware of the support our children will need when returning to learning in school to re-gain any perseverance they may have lost; honesty about how we are feeling and how we have tackled life in this latest Lockdown will all play a key part in successfully re-engaging them with school life.

School re-opening date

The first day back for children will be **Monday 8th March**.

Start and end times of the school day

We will be implementing staggered finish times to keep groups apart as they leave school.

The timings are as follows

Class	Door opens	Doors close	End time	Entry/exit
Ladybirds	8:45am	9.00am	3:15pm	Side gate into Ladybirds
Otters	8:45am	9.00am	3:20pm	Community Entrance
Penguins	8.45am	9.00am	3.25pm	Community Entrance
White Tigers	8.45am	9.00am	3.30pm	Community Entrance

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Previously, with the doors opening at 8.45am, we found that there was a steady flow of children entering the building, and there was not a glut of arrivals at any one time. For this reason, we do not see that there is a requirement to stagger arrival times. We will keep this under review. If you have siblings in different classes, please bring children together and they can enter the school by their allocated entrance.

Arrangements at the end of the day; please collect your child/ren at the above times. Please ensure that you maintain social distancing when on site and wear a mask. When your child/ren are in your care, we ask they also maintain social distancing when on the school site.

Please refrain from gathering at the school gates and coming onto the site without an appointment. Please take your child/ren to the designated entrance. If you need to speak to a teacher, please send a message via Class Dojo. The class teacher will telephone you, respond by Class Dojo or arrange an appointment.

If your child is upset on coming into school, we will not be able to physically take your child from you. Instead we ask that you positively encourage your child to come into school. Please be assured that we have put provision in place to support any children who may be anxious or upset when returning to school.

Break time and lunchtime

The children will play in designated areas on the playgrounds within their class bubbles.

Fruit is provided for EYFS and KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2). These children are welcome to bring their own healthy snack in rather than eating the fruit on offer if they do not like what is provided.

KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) - Please ensure your child has a healthy snack each day to eat which links with our Healthy Minds and Healthy Bodies initiative. (Remember a healthy snack is: fresh fruit, dried fruit, vegetables (celery, carrots, etc.). Please do not allow them to bring sweets, crisps or sandwiches to eat at break time.

Children will continue to eat their lunches in the dining hall whilst in their bubbles.

Uniform

We expect all our pupils to wear the Waterhouses school jumper and or cardigan. Black/Grey trousers/skirts/shorts and white/pale blue polo shirts. We ask that every child wears the school uniform.

Wearing the Waterhouses School Uniform helps us to feel part of our community again, it contributes to our school ethos.

Attendance and fines

The government have stated that it is vital for all children to return to school.

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will be **mandatory from Monday 8th March**. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is registered 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

What can be brought from home?

It is still recommended that pupils limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day. Therefore, only essential items please - lunch boxes, hats, coats, reading books, homework diaries and phonics/sound cards.

Book bags are allowed.

PE

All children will come to school in their PE kit (including tracksuit bottoms/leggings as the weather can still be chilly) on the day that they have PE - wearing their school jumper or cardigan over the top.

Sunshine Club

This will continue to provide before and after school care.

For us to run the Sunshine Club safely and within the guidance, changes have needed to be made. The children will need to remain in their 'bubble/class' groups within a designated area in the Sunshine room.

Please can you inform Mrs Derbyshire, Derbyshire.d@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk, if you will be requiring the breakfast and after school facility and on which days you will be needing it, in order for us to plan. A monthly payment will be raised on ParentPay in the usual way.

Breakfast Club

The children can be dropped off from 7:45am. No earlier. The cost of this will be a flat fee of £5. A monthly payment will be raised retrospectively on ParentPay. The children will need to wash their hands upon arrival and will be directed to their bubble's area and can do the activities provided with their bubble group. A light breakfast will be available.

After School Club

This is also booked and charged via ParentPay for £10 a session and will run until 6pm. This will include food and a drink.

Again, the children will be kept in bubble groups.

Regular cleaning of tables and equipment will take place at the end of the morning and after school clubs.

Social Distancing and 'bubbles'

It is important to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff. This will be achieved through keeping groups separate (in 'bubbles') and through maintaining distance between individuals. The children will be in class group bubbles and we will reduce the possibilities of mixing with other classes at any time.

Infection control; we are ensuring that we put in a system of controls

Firstly, we will minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school. We will ensure the following. We also ask that you talk to your children about the following:

- The importance of handwashing on entry and exit of the school building and regular handwashing throughout the day for 20 seconds
- Good hygiene promoting the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach
- We also have hand sanitising stations in each classroom
- Maintaining a 1 metre distance from staff where possible

There will be additional cleaning to ensure that frequently touched surfaces are cleaned more often, and the toilets are cleaned during the day.

We will continue to minimise the contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.

Where necessary staff will wear appropriate PPE. (First Aid and emergencies).

Illness

- If your child is displaying any symptoms of a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), **you must keep them at home.**
- Any child who displays symptoms when at school, will be sent home and advised to follow self-isolation guidance and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Parents will be expected to ensure that there is never a time that there will not be an adult available to collect a child within 45 minutes of receiving a call from school. If your child needs to go home because of symptoms, they will be isolated whilst being supervised by an adult who can maintain at least 2m distance throughout.
- If there is a confirmed case in school, we will enact policies to test and/ or isolate the rest of the class and all parents will be informed.

Behaviour

There will be a zero-tolerance policy for any pupils undermining the health and safety procedures and putting staff or other pupils at risk. For any pupils compromising health and safety, parents will be contacted to collect their child. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the whole school community.

Walking to and from school

If you allow your older children to walk to and from school, it is important that they only walk with siblings or children from their class bubble. This is important for us in maintaining the safety of everyone in the school community.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully



Mr David Wood
Headteacher