



Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Dear Families,

Joining and Returning to West Earlham Infant & Nursery School in September

We are looking forward to welcoming all children in main school, back to school on **Monday 7th September 2020**. Nursery children will be starting back from Wednesday 9th September (please see nursery letter) This includes welcoming new children who will be joining us for the first time.

As a school we understand that this can be a worrying time for families and that you will want to know what the school has put in place to make the school environment as safe as possible.

We have been working over the summer to make sure that the children can work in their year group bubbles in the classrooms and shared spaces in the school.

I hope that this letter helps to answer questions you may have. We have made sure the school is organised according to government guidelines and have completed the Norfolk County Council's risk assessment document. If any guidance changes we will of course respond and let you know what we have done and how it affects your child.

Coming to School and End of the School Day Arrangements

Children will be in year group bubbles in September and staggered start and finish times have been put in place to reduce the number of children and adults coming into school at any one time. Please note only **1 adult per child/family** will be able to come on site.

Nursery (Please see individual letters for transition during September)

Reception (Please see individual letters for transition during September) From Monday 28th September 9am – 3.05 pm

Year 1 8.50am - 2.55 pm

Year 2 9.10 – 3.15 pm

If you have more than 1 child in a year group, please bring all children at the later time and collect at the later time.

Please **DO NOT** arrive before these times and please do not gather around the gates or pathways leading up to school.

Walk to school as far as possible to reduce the number of cars parked on the road. If you do need to drive to school, car journeys should only be shared with members of your own family.

Please walk in preference to cycling where possible to minimise the equipment coming from home. Cycles will be stored in the cycle shed, but, we cannot guarantee these will not be touched by other people.

If a parent or carer is clinically vulnerable, please do not bring your child to school yourself. Please make alternative arrangements for your child to get to school.

If your child uses public transport or wears a mask to school, the mask will need to be removed at the classroom door. Children will be asked to place their mask in a named plastic bag which will be sealed and given back to the child at the end of the school day.

What Your Child Needs to Bring

Your child will be expected to wear school uniform (not nursery) and will need a named **coat, wellington boots, spare clothes in a named bag and a book bag**

If your child has an inhaler please bring this to the school office as soon as your child starts school.

Please **do not** bring in extra items from home such as toys.

On days when your child has PE, your child should wear their PE kit to school. If it is cold they can wear jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt as well as their shorts and top. This is because it is too hard to maintain any sort of distancing when changing in the classrooms or using the changing rooms and children's clothing may get mixed up. These days are as follows:

Year 1 – Monday & Tuesday (from Monday 14th September)

Year 2 – Wednesday & Thursday (from week beginning Monday 14th September)

Lunches

During the first half of the autumn term there will be no hot dinners. Children in main school will be provided with a sandwich lunch from the school kitchen, which they will eat in their classroom. Each class will have specific staff to supervise them during lunchtime. This will be reviewed in October and we will let you know of any changes.

During the School Day

Throughout the day the children will be working in their year group areas indoors and outside with staff assigned to their bubble. At West Earlham Infant & Nursery School, the bubbles are the year group that your child is in. This means that while your child is going to be in their class group for most of the time, the staff may be working in both the classes in their year group.

There will be regular hand washing with soap, for example on coming into school, in between activities, before eating and coming back in from lunch.

Children will move around school in their class/year group. Children will be accompanied in the corridor when visiting the toilet.

Attendance

From September all children are expected to attend school in the normal way. If your child is not well enough to attend school on a particular day, please contact the school office (01603 451299) by 9am.

Parents and Carers Visiting the School:

Please do not come into school if you can phone or email with a question or enquiry. This will help you and the school staff to stay safe.

If your child is taking any prescribed medication please bring this to the school office. This will need to be collected by an adult at the end of the school day.

Other Arrangements and Changes for the Full Opening of School

There will be **no breakfast cafe** during the autumn term. However from Monday 14th September, children in main school will be offered a bagel for breakfast in their classroom when they arrive if they would like.

There will be **no after school clubs** for the first half of the autumn term.

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. If you are in any doubt please phone the school office for advice.

If you or any members of your household have any Covid-19 symptoms you are advised to ensure you are all tested. Please inform the school office if your child attending West Earlham Infant & Nursery School has a positive test as soon as possible.

We understand there will be a lot of changes to how the school usually operates this term. We are working together to make the school a safe a place to be, and hope you will understand why the changes are necessary.

Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Mardell

Headteacher

