

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Boris Johnson confirmed in his Thursday briefing that the five tests have been met so we shall be going ahead with our plans to expand opening.

- From 1<sup>st</sup> June – critical worker children who have booked a place for days when needed: Monday to Friday.
  
- From 8<sup>th</sup> June – wider opening for children that have applied for a place
  - Nursery Monday to Thursday
  - YRB Monday to Thursday
  - Y1 Monday to Thursday
  - Y6E Monday to Thursday
  - Critical worker children, Monday to Friday
  
- From Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June – wider opening for children that have applied for a place
  - Nursery Monday to Thursday
  - YRP Monday to Thursday
  - Y1 Monday to Thursday
  - Y6C Monday to Thursday
  - Critical worker children, Monday to Friday

Boris Johnson also stated:

*“We do believe it’s safe provided everybody remembers the guidelines we’ve set out and everyone understands the crucial things you’ve got to do – particularly maintaining social distancing and washing your hands and social isolating with symptoms. Those are the crucial things you’ve got to do, they can’t be stressed often enough.”*

This advice applies to us all; handwashing and hygiene in school will be high priority, social distancing for staff, parents and promoted the best we can for children, whilst it is essential that no child or parent enters the school site if anyone in the household displays any of the symptoms.

The NHS has updated the common symptoms of Coronavirus to include loss of smell or taste. The symptoms to look out for are:

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

- **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Any household member is advised to book a test if they display these symptoms. Children are not to return to school until either the test is negative or the illness has passed, following government guidance of either 7 days or 14 days isolation. Please keep the school updated so we can keep everyone else safe too.

## Risk Assessment

We have an extremely thorough risk assessment in place and are confident that we have done everything we can to make Woodlands as safe as possible.

Our risk assessment has been submitted to the Local Authority, interrogated by an independent Health and Safety company and agreed by the Governors.

There are a couple of changes to share with you:

- **Uniform:** Children MUST wear clean clothes daily. I understand the difficulties this will present if children have to wear uniform, particularly when they have outgrown items and shopping is not easy. Therefore, children can wear appropriate non-uniform to school. No open toes please. If your child would like to wear uniform they are welcome to.
- **Stationary:** If children choose to bring in some stationary items, then those items will have to remain in school.

## Entering and leaving school

Entering school and leaving school are going to be the times that are most difficult in terms of social distancing so we ask for your patience and support. Please refer to my previous letter for further detail

- No cars moving on site between 8:30 – 9:10
- Parent and child to be at school for their designated time, not early. There will be no waiting on site.
- The front pedestrian gate will open at 8:15. Parents are asked to queue from Bloxwich Road North down Hunts Lane, then towards the KS1 playground following the pathway set out by the cones, following the 2m guidelines.
- Parents say goodbye at the KS1 playground gate.
- Nursery parents follow the same queue and then join a separate short queue round the side of the Nursery ramp.
- Please don't pass on messages to staff these must be communicated by email or telephone. The risk assessment advises that conversation is discouraged.

- All parents exit through the car park.
- Y6 gate will open at 8:35, parent and child wait on the KS2 playground until 8:45
- Woodies children can drive onto the site as usual and enter as previously, until 8:15.
- Parents are advised to walk, cycle or scoot to school and avoid public transport if possible.

### Staggered entry times

- 8:30 N through Nursery door, please don't cross the ramp line
- 8:30 Y1, Y4 and Y5 through KS1 gate
- 8:45 Y2 and Y3 through KS1 gate
- 8:45 Y6 through the back door off Bloxwich Road North, wait on the KS2 playground
- 9:00 Reception through KS1 gate
- 9:00 Families with siblings all bring through the KS1 gate
- 9:00 Parents that are running late and miss their slot



### Staggered exit times

- 2:35 R through KS1 playground door
- 2:35 Y2/3 through KS2 playground door
- 2:50 Y1 through KS1 playground door
- 2:50 Y4/5 through KS2 playground door
- 2:50 Y6 through the back door onto Bloxwich Road North (Parents can wait on the KS2 playground)
- 3:00 Nursery from the ramp
- 3:00 Children with siblings through KS2 door
- 3:00 Late children collected through KS1 door

I do apologise for all the information that I need to share with you. It will all become clearer as we return to school and new routines become normal. We shall be reviewing our risk assessment daily and if this results in changes then I will share with you.

If you have any questions then do email [postbox@woodlands.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@woodlands.walsall.sch.uk)

Please reassure your children that despite all these changes, we are still Woodlands, and the staff are ready with big smiles, enthusiasm and exciting new learning to dive into. We are very much looking forward to seeing your children, whether it is Monday 1<sup>st</sup> or Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June. We have missed them.

Yours sincerely,

T G Newton

Head Teacher

