

WAKEFIELD METHODIST (VC) J, I & N SCHOOL



Field Lane
Thornes
Wakefield
WF2 7RU
Tel: 01924 204940
Headteacher: Mrs D Clark



29th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you as promised in my last letter with the arrangements for the return of all children from Tuesday 8th September (Nursery and Reception will be staggered in from Monday 14th September, details have been communicated to you already by Mrs Simpson). Many of the arrangements I detailed on my last letter remain the same but I have included them in this letter so you have all the information you need in one place.

Please note that these plans may be subject to change over the coming month if government guidance changes, as it did many times during the course of lockdown and wider re-opening. The main principles of the guidance are that children can now be in bubbles/classes of approx. 30 with constant/consistent, (where possible) teacher/s and teaching assistant/s. Handwashing will still be encouraged often and bubbles/classes will stay apart from other bubbles/classes as much as possible to slow the spread of the virus. We will re-evaluate these measures often and hope some of them may change after October half term.

The beginning and end of the school day

From September children will be dropped off by parents at different gates with their start and finish times staggered. These gates will be clearly labelled. Children with siblings can be dropped off together at the youngest siblings start gate/time and then the older sibling will be directed where to go. They can be collected at the latest finish time, again at the youngest siblings gate (please bear with us as we all adapt to this new way of working).

Some children may find this challenging at first so you will need to talk to them about it to limit upset when they return to school. For the youngest children in school (Nursery and Reception) this is the reason we are staggering children in gradually. Mrs Simpson and Mrs Walker will be working with Mrs Trainor and Mrs Browster during the first week (8th September onwards) to support children moving into Year 1. Parents will not be permitted into the playgrounds or school building and if you need to contact a member of staff you will need to phone the school office, email us or send their teacher a Dojo message.

Hopefully, children will be excited about returning to school and the entry into school will run smoothly, unfortunately if a child is distressed and doesn't want to come into the school gates or doesn't want to leave a parent at the gate, staff members will be unable to intervene, we will encourage and comfort from a distance.

Nursery/Lower Foundation - Gate 3 (Thornleigh side of school) 9.00 – 3.30 or 9.00-12.00, 12.30 -3.30 sessions if children are attending half day sessions.

Reception/Upper Foundation - Gate 3 (Thornleigh side of school) 8.45 – 3.15

Year 1 - Gate 2 (Field Lane side of school) 9.00 – 3.30

Year 2 - Gate 2 (Field Lane side of school) 8.45 – 3.15



Year 3 - Gate 1 (Field Lane side of school) 8.45 – 3.15

Year 4 - Gate 1 (Field Lane side of school) 9.00 – 3.30

Year 5 - Gate 4 (Thornleigh side of school) 8.45 – 3.15

Year 6 - Gate 4 (Thornleigh side of school) 9.00 – 3.30 Class 6 will work in the hall until half term.

During the school day

Children will stay with their class group at all times and contact with other classes will be avoided where possible. Each class will have their own teacher/s and teaching assistant/s which will remain constant.

In order that classes of children are not mixing and staff remain consistent we are unable to offer before and after-school care until at least October half term, when plans will be re-evaluated.

Playtimes and lunch times will be staggered to limit the number of children moving around the corridors and to limit the number of children on the playground. The playground and field will be zoned so children know where they can and cannot play. The trim trail will not be used as it cannot easily be cleaned.

Children will use hand gel at the school gate as they enter and then they will wash their hands when they get into school. Hand washing will also take place after playtimes and before and after lunchtime. Each class will have their own designated hand washing sink.

Children will be eating packed lunches brought in from home (in an easily cleaned or disposable box/bag) or a grab bag supplied by school in classrooms. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free grab bag as part of their universal school meals entitlement. Year 3,4,5 and 6 can purchase a grab bag lunch for £2.20 per day, £11.00 per week (if you think that you may be eligible for free school meals please follow the link on the text sent out 21 July 2020).

Children will be expected to wear school uniform (clean each day), however on P.E days they will come to school in their P.E kit appropriate to the weather that day. Children will need a suitable waterproof coat and shoes as we will be having playtimes outdoors whenever possible. Children will also be doing all P.E outdoors in the first half term as per the government guidance.

Children will only bring to school essential items such as a lunchbox (where appropriate) and a full water bottle (2 if the weather is hot). Water fountains/machines in school will not be used.

In class 2-6 children will sit in rows facing the front of the room (as stated in the government guidance). The teacher and teaching assistant will endeavour to remain 2 metres away from the children. If they are working more closely the teacher or teaching assistant may wear a mask or visor.

Children in nursery and reception and Year 1 will play with toys that can be easily cleaned, once they have finished playing with an item it will be placed in a bucket to be cleaned, again to reduce the number of contacts on resources.

We have been advised to remove items from classrooms that cannot be easily cleaned so soft furnishings, dress up outfits, soft toys, soft dolls, playdough and sand etc will be stored away.

Children will have a reading book that stays in school, home reading will be set online through 'Bug Club' for the first half term.

Children will go to the toilets one at a time so classes of children are not mixing.

Extra cleaning will take place in classrooms, common touch points and toilet areas during the school day to ensure we are doing all we can to try and keep everyone safe.

Personal protective equipment and COVID 19 symptoms

If children require first aid or personal care this will be administered by a member of staff who will wear an apron, gloves and face covering as the 2 metres social distancing will not be possible.

If a child shows symptoms of COVID-19 they will be taken to a well-ventilated isolation space where they will be cared for by a member of staff wearing an apron gloves and face covering until you arrive at school. It is vital that you come immediately to collect your child. Your child would then need to be tested or the household would need to isolate for 14 days. If a child or staff member tested positive the rest of the group they have been working with will need to isolate for 14 days.

The symptoms are a new continuous cough, a high temperature, a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell.

If your child displays symptoms at home they must not be brought to school and it is imperative that you monitor your child/ren closely to ensure they are not being sent into school if they are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19.

If you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID and or you are contacted as part of the track, trace and isolate programme, it is important that you let school know immediately so that measures can be taken in school for the safety of all.

Staffing

These are the staffing arrangements for 2020/2021 academic year. The table below shows the different year groups and the teachers who will be teaching in that year group.

Class	Teacher/s
Nursery	Mrs Waite/Mrs Simpson
Reception	Mrs Simpson/Mrs Harris
Class 1	Mrs Trainor
Class 2	Mrs Ward
Class 3	Mrs Taylor
Class 4	Miss Allen/Mrs Watkins
Class 5	Mrs Clark
Class 6	Mrs Earnshaw

I hope you all have a great summer break and the whole team are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school in September.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss anything contained in this letter please ring the school office or email me on headteacher@methodist.wakefield.sch.uk

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Donna Clark
Headteacher