



St James' Gardens
Witton-le-Wear
Co. Durham
DL14 0BG

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Monday 13th July, 2020.

Dear Parents,

As I said in my last letter, we have been reading and digesting the information and guidance which came from central Government on 2nd July 2020 with regard to the full re-opening of schools for all children from September 2020 onwards.

Having had time to read this guidance we have produced some internal frameworks for staff as to how the practicalities of full re-opening may look like, and I thought that as parents you may find an initial overview of our thoughts to be useful.

I do want to say at this point in time that the areas covered below are VERY MUCH subject to possible change if / when we receive further National Guidance. I am really sorry not to be able to give everyone 'concrete' answers at this present moment but we are part of a very fluid and mobile picture which can, and does, change frequently.

At this present moment in time our initial thoughts are as follows:

- All children will return to school in specific Class 'bubbles.' Children in each individual class will be encouraged to remain together as a group for all lessons, playtimes and lunchtimes.
- These class 'bubbles' for Class 1, Class 2, Class 3 and Class 4 will arrive /leave school each day on a staggered basis to try and reduce congestion at these busy times of the school day (details to follow).
- As we have done for the past three months, we will still be asking parents/carers to bring children to the main gate but NOT to come onto school premises. Contact over important issues between school and parents will continue to take place either by telephone or e mail.
- New Reception and nursery children will come back to school in September on a staggered start basis throughout this month, and details of this are being sent separately to parents by our EYFS team.
- When we return in September, we will be expecting children to attend as normal and the Government has already said that this will be a statutory and legal requirement.
- In line with Government guidance we will be expecting pupils to wear school uniform as they would normally do.



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- Each of our 4 classes will be using their own separate toileting areas in order to reduce spread of germs across 'bubbles.'
- Large scale events which usually take place during the autumn term will not, unfortunately, be able to take place as normal due to the need to reduce large groups of adults and children gathering together. This is likely to affect such events as Harvest Festival, Carol Service and Christmas shows. We will think creatively about individual events as they come along during the autumn term, but at this present moment they are not a priority.
- We will be having staggered playtimes and lunchtimes within school each day in order to keep class groups apart, and we are considering procedures to make this happen smoothly.
- We are going to try, as best we can, to begin operating our Breakfast Club and Afterschool WASCLS club from the first full week of the autumn term which is WC Monday 7th September - this will give us the few days when we return to get all of the children welcomed back into school and hopefully get them into their new routines. We will be sending out a separate letter about Breakfast Club and WASCLS which will provide more details.

I hope that the details in this letter begin to give you some indication as to how we are planning for the return of all of our children in September. I will be giving you further information in due course over the summer holiday, but at this moment in time we are really looking to welcoming all of our children back to school from Wednesday 2nd September onwards.

In the meantime, have a lovely summer break, and hopefully enjoy some sunny, fine weather!

Best Wishes,
Mr. M. Stephenson.
Head teacher.

Head Teacher: Mark Stephenson B.Ed. (Hons) M.A.(Educ)

