

WOODLAND VIEW JUNIOR SCHOOL

Ivy Road, Spixworth,
Norwich, Norfolk,
NR10 3PY



Tel: 01603 898292

Headteacher: Mr M Collins MA

www.woodlandview.norfolk.sch.uk
office@woodlandview.norfolk.sch.uk

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Whole school return in September

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the government's announcement that all children will be returning to school in September, I wanted to write to you to confirm the arrangements for next term. I also wish to reassure you that we have carefully read the government guidance and believe the plan outlined below is the safest way forward for our school **from September**. This plan will be reviewed regularly in light of national and local guidance but as things stand now, we expect this to be in place until January at the earliest.

School will reopen for pupils on Monday 7th September 2020.

The school will look very similar to how it looks currently but the children will work in larger class bubbles rather than the small numbers we have now. There will be no whole school mixing, which means staggered start times and finish times along with staggered breaks and lunches. There will also be no whole school assemblies; assembly activities will take place in class groups within each class room.

Each child will have the same length school day irrespective of their staggered start and finish times. To do this with the least amount of inconvenience possible we have divided the school into two groups – lower and upper school and ask that only one parent drops off / picks up their child.

Group	Gate	Arrive	Depart
Upper School Year 5 Bubble 1	1 (closest to infant school)	8:40 am (gates will close at 8:45 am)	2:55 pm
Upper School Year 6 Bubble 1	2 (between the hedges)	8:40 am (gates will close at 8:45 am)	2:55 pm
Lower School Year 3 Bubble 2	1 (closest to infant school)	8:50 am (gates will close at 8:55 am)	3:05 pm
Lower School Year 4 Bubble 2	2 (between the hedges)	8:50 am (gates will close at 8:55 am)	3:05 pm

Children will be collected from the playground and taken to their classrooms. They will enter the rooms using the fire doors so we can minimise the need for children to walk along our small corridors. The only exception to this is for those children in Kingfisher class who will enter via their own cloakroom door. Corridors have been marked with arrows to stop congestion.

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As other schools are also operating staggered start and finish times we appreciate that a degree of flexibility may be needed to support some parents with these arrangements. If this is the case, please inform the school office. Where parents have children in both bubbles we ask that they arrive at the earliest time and leave at the latest time. They will be able to wait inside the school gate for their bubble to arrive or depart.

We kindly request that parents do not enter the school playground apart from year 3 parents who may need to come on to the top playground for the first week only. Year 3 collection and drop off times for the first week only will be 9am to 3 pm.

Uniform:

We expect that children will come to school in uniform from September. Please contact the school office if you need an additional uniform order form. If orders have not been received due to a delay from the manufacturer, we will be sympathetic but we ask that colours similar to the school colours be worn. Previously children also changed their shoes from outdoor trainers to indoor school shoes. As we need to reduce congregation in the cloakrooms and reduce transition times, we ask the children wear school shoes every day, except for those days when they have games.

Kidz Klub:

Entrance to KidzKlub will be via the gate from the main carpark. When it is time for the children to start their school day, they will be asked to wait at the KidzKlub door until they are collected to walk with their group round to the classrooms.

Where parents use childcare providers or out of school activities for their children, we encourage you to seek assurance that the providers are carefully considering their own protective measures, and only use those providers that can demonstrate this.

Lunches:

Children will need to eat their lunches in the classroom – desks will be cleaned before food is eaten. Children who have ordered a hot dinner will have their dinner delivered to their classroom so they can eat with their bubble. Children will be able to bring their own packed lunches in a plastic box, but no fabric lunchboxes please. Once our catering team have finalised the autumn term menu it will be sent out to you via email.

We are very fortunate to have a large outdoor space but we do need to be mindful of the fact that winter weather will soon be with us. To reduce the numbers of people outdoors at the same time, breaks and lunches will be staggered. Each group will spend half of their lunchtime in the classroom, having lunch, and the other half outdoors in their zoned area.

Fitness/Games:

Where possible, all fitness/games lessons will take place outside. We are unable to use our changing facilities at this time, so we ask that on a games day your child comes to school wearing their games kit. Games lessons will take place on either a Wednesday or a Thursday – you will be notified of the exact day and time once the timetables have been finalised. It will be essential for children to have suitable outdoor sports clothing on their allocated day.

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What measures are we putting in place to comply with guidance?

- The school will promote the 'Catch it, Kill it, Bin it' approach and help ensure children know how to clean their hands thoroughly.
- Staff will ensure that rooms have good levels of ventilation.
- Staggered start and finish times using different entrances to avoid large gatherings at the gate. We ask that only one parent drops off/collects their child and that you leave the area around the entrance as soon as this has happened.
- There will be no whole school mixing. If children need to go into a different group for a specialised intervention this will be undertaken in a socially distanced way.
- Parents will only be allowed onto the school premises if they have a prior appointment.
- Visitors and contractors to the school must wash or sanitise their hands on entry and exit from the building.
- Children will be able to bring one bag to school containing essential equipment but this equipment must not be shared with others. Children can bring in one pencil case containing their own stationery; this must stay in school.
- Currently we are unable to offer after school sporting clubs during September; this will be reviewed during the autumn term.
- Staff will try as much as possible to maintain a 2m distance from children within their group although we know the guidance accepts that children will not be able to distance within their group.
- Sporting activities will take place outside; suitable outdoor clothing will be essential. P.E. equipment will be cleaned by staff before being used by another group.
- Children will stay at the same desk and on the same chair during the day. There will be additional cleaning of frequently touched surfaces e.g. toilets, door handles, taps.
- Chrome books and iPads will be wiped with antibacterial wipes before and after use; they will be used on a rotation system to allow time for additional cleaning.
- Quarantine boxes will be used in the library for the return of books; books will stay in the box for 72 hours before re-use.
- Handwashing facilities and sanitiser will be in every classroom. As a minimum, children will be expected to clean hands on arrival, before and after break, before and after lunch and before leaving the site at the end of the day.
- If any child in school displays any coronavirus (Covid-19) symptoms, they will wait in the medical room, which is now our isolation room, supported by a member of staff, whilst they wait for a parent to collect them. Should they need to use the toilet during this time they will use the toilet next to the office; this toilet would then be deep cleaned before anyone else can use it.
- Parents/carers must be ready and willing to:
 - Book a test if they are displaying symptoms. Staff and children must not come into school if they have symptoms. All children can be tested but children under the age of 11 will need to be helped by their parent if using a home testing kit.
 - Provide details if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus or if asked by NHS Test and Trace.

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- Self-isolate if they have been in contact with someone who develops coronavirus symptoms or someone who tests positive for the virus.
- Inform the school immediately of any test results.

Please support our school community in following the latest Covid-19 guidance issued by the government.

We are looking forward to welcoming our school community back to Woodland View Junior School and working with the children to get them settled back into a routine. Our main aim in September is to ensure children feel safe and happy about returning to school. It has been fantastic working with so many children over the last few weeks, seeing them settle quickly and enjoy spending time with their peers.

There has been a lot of discussion in the media about 'lost learning' and a 'lost generation'. I feel it is important to point out that a large majority of our children have engaged with their home learning during this time and will have learnt new skills at home that we cannot possibly teach them at school. I have even heard stories of a young man who has learnt how to change the oil in dad's car (with permission and supervision)! High quality teaching will help children to close gaps and polish their skills for the time they will have been out of school; holidays not included! As a staff, we are confident that we can work effectively with children and families to help make up any lost ground.

Attendance in September will once again be compulsory and I do hope the plans outlined above will give you reassurance. If you still do have any questions about next term, then please do get in touch with the school office. During the September INSET days we will be asking staff to send you a link to a virtual class meeting so your child can 'meet' their class teacher ahead of their return, have a chance to catch up with their peers and most importantly, have the chance to ask any questions that they may have.

Thank you for your ongoing support. All of the staff at Woodland View Junior School wish you a safe summer and we look forward to welcoming your children in September.

This document has been produced in consultation with the infant school.

Kind regards

Heallen Payne

Deputy Head Teacher / SENCO

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