

WOODLAND VIEW JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now planning for the possible reopening of schools for Year 6. Inline with current recommended guidelines, we are planning to open on June 1st however we are waiting for some important safety equipment to arrive before we can confirm that date. We will keep you posted with any changes.

Thank you to those parents who have informed us about whether they are choosing to send their child to school or not. I have not heard from all parents and as you will appreciate this makes it difficult to plan with such strict government guidelines to follow. Please can I ask those parents who have not done so yet, to let us know with their decision by 3pm on Wednesday 20th May 2020. If we do not hear from you, we will assume your child will not be returning.

Some of you have explained you are undecided. Please remember there is no pressure either way. Do what you feel is right for your family. Teachers will continue to provide distance learning via Google Classroom. This distance learning will be very similar in content that is provided within the classroom.

Without exact numbers, I cannot share detailed plans but I can give you an indication of what school will look like if we do open which may help you make a more informed decision.

The government guidelines we are being asked to follow are with the aim of reducing the risk of transmission of Covid 19. To manage children's expectations, it is important to me that you and they are aware of the following:

- Children need to be split into 'pods' of 8 – 10 children as our classrooms are small. There will be designated adults attached to each 'pod', however this may not necessarily be their class teacher. Children and adults will social distance throughout the day. All other areas of the school will be out of bounds to children eg hall, library, cloakroom, other than their 'pod' classroom and designated toilets.
- The classrooms will be stripped with only essentials put back in. Classroom spaces will be divided into 2 metre squares. Children will be taught to stay within their 2 metre space. There will be no sharing of equipment or normal 'playing' or 'interacting' with each other.
- Outdoor play will be staggered and children will be kept in zoned areas. There will be no contact or ball games, for example. PE will be limited to non-contact running games and other games that children can keep a distance.
- One way systems will be marked out as will 2 metre distancing for example where they may line up to come back into the classroom. **Corridors are currently a two-way system?**
- There will be no assemblies or events planned for the summer term.
- Activities will happen within the 'pods'.
- There will be no visits to and from the High School for Year 6 transition as things currently stand.

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- There needs to be a tight cleaning schedule throughout the day which will take up a proportion of staff and pupil time.
- As you would expect there will be regular, supervised handwashing for children and children will be involved in keeping anything they use wiped down after use.
- Year 6 will primarily focus on English, Maths and PSHE (PATHs) with some outdoor learning. Curriculum plans will be similar to those the children who are distance learning will be following.
- Lunches will be provided (hot or packed) to minimize items going back a forth from home and eaten in the classroom. Packed lunches from home will not be allowed on site.
- Children will not be able to take things to and from school eg stationery, bags and books. Water bottles will be permitted.
- Please be aware that staff will be allocated to a pod and we will not be able to interchange children or staff members.
- Staff are rightly concerned about their own health and safety and of the health and safety of their families. We are recommending that children and staff wear face masks indoors to decrease transmission of particles. Staff will use PPE for first aid, vomiting etc.
- There will be staggered starting and ending of day times.
- Parents will not be able to come onto the school grounds.
- There will be a one-way system from drop off and collection. You will enter the school via one pedestrian gate and leave through the other pedestrian gate on Ivy Road.
- Children are asked to wear their normal everyday clothes (or school uniform if they prefer), suitable for learning outdoors. It must be clean clothes every day. Children should wear their trainers to school as there will be nowhere to change them on site.

We do not mean to sound negative but we need to know you are aware of the reality of the situation. The staff and I will do what they can to make being back at school as positive and as safe as possible for the children but it is not, and cannot be 'business as usual'. We will review and adjust our procedures regularly in line with Government guidelines.

This may help those who are undecided make a decision. I do need numbers to forward plan.

As ever, I send this with my very best wishes to you and your families,

Mr Collins
Headteacher

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