

To our Wrenbury School Family,

We are nearing the point of the full re-opening of school on 2nd September. At this moment in time, the government and the new body replacing Public Health England are supportive of a full return to school. The Wrenbury Team are very much looking forward to welcoming all our children back and also welcoming our new families too. We want your child to return and to keep your family, our teachers, our support staff and their families as well as the vulnerable members of the Wrenbury community safe at all times and especially while this virus is still globally active. As we have heard in the news, the virus (whilst on the decline in the UK and in our local area) does re-emerge in different localities – some bordering Cheshire East. Please be mindful that we cannot give you 100% guarantee that the virus does not find its way into our community or into our school at some point in the future. All we can do is try and mitigate the risk and **work together** to follow best practise and the advice given by specialists who inform the government.

It is **essential that we ALL follow best practise and the specialist advice** because ‘we all matter’. Looking beyond ourselves, we especially need to protect the highly vulnerable in our school and wider community. We have a number of children and staff whose health has meant they have had to shield because of their vulnerability. We want all our children, staff and their families to return to school, receive the education they have missed out on and feel confident that everyone in the school community cares. We need to be consistent, supportive, respectful and follow the guidelines that will allow us all to step out into the ‘new norm’ of returning to school, for parent/carers to be able to return to work and for children and their families to be able to do the lovely things that we have all missed in recent months.

Before we can re-open a comprehensive risk assessment has had to be completed by myself in consultation with the Wrenbury Team. We have followed and implemented the protective measures necessary to re-open. These have been consulted on and agreed by the governing body with further assurance from a governor site visit and the LA’s approval. I hope to reassure you that we at school have and will continue to do our very best to make school a safe place.

Our plan to keep your child and family safe

Coming to school and pick up

- Access to school site limited to MUGA gate by the doctor’s surgery/tennis courts ONLY
- One way systems around site for drop off and pick up
- Social distancing – painted white markers along access route/one way system and 2m distancing signs
- One parent only to bring child to school; bringing siblings not attending school on to site to be avoided where possible. If sibling has to come on site must stay with parent - hand holding; carrying or buggy.
- Staggered arrivals and departures

Entry to school via MUGA gate / Dr surgery entrance	Drop off	Pick up	Follow one way route to entrance to ‘Bubble’ room	Follow one way route to exit site
Little Wrens Mrs Turner/Mrs Agnew	9.00-9.10	3.00	EYFS gate; Separation barrier from Base 1 as enter	Usual exit gate on back playground between school house and main school building
Base 1 Mrs Dopierala/ Mrs Winward	8.45-9.05	Where there is more than one child in	EYFS gate; Separation barrier from Little Wrens as enter	
Base 2 Miss McKinnon / Mrs Griffin	8.45-9.05		Courtyard gate on back yard	

Base 3 Mr Lindop	8.45-9.00	family - pick up from 3.15 (agree with teacher) Where a child is the only child from a family in school - pick up 3.30	Base 3 door Previous B2/Miss McKinnon classroom	Pedestrian gate front of school (walk past reception area and office to gate)
Base 4 Mrs Charlesworth / Mrs Wimpenny	8.45-9.00		Base 4 entrance (previously Base 5/Mrs Charleworth's door)	
Base 5 Miss Phillips/Mrs Clarke	8.35-8.55		Doorway beyond gate next to school house (between school house and main school building)	Continue along path to exit school site

- White painted or plastic circular markers on ground outside drop off and pick up areas for parent and child to stand and wait at a social distance.
- Once child has been handed to teacher or back to parent there should be no loitering/stopping to chat with friends or staff, either inside school grounds **or outside**. The aim is to keep everyone moving at a safe distance.

What to wear / bring to school

Wear

- School uniform for all but PE day
- **On PE day** – school's PE kit
- Hair tied back; no jewellery
- Sun-cream applied BEFORE school if needed
- Sun hat if very hot; coat if cold or wet

Bring

- A **cleaned, named water bottle** – this will be sent home daily, to be cleaned, refilled with **water only** and returned.
- A packed lunch if providing own in a **disposable** bag – disposable cutlery etc
- **NOTHING ELSE** – both the above can be carried in by your child, not in a school bag/ruck sack – we are not using cloakrooms initially and need to limit non-essentials and items brought from home as there is limited storage.

'Bubbles'

The children will be in a class 'bubble'. There will be a limit to the contact made by different staff with children in each class. In most cases, the children will work with their class teacher and teaching assistant and their PE teacher, Mr Ellis, who will undertake as many lessons as possible outdoors. During the day in school, each class bubble will be kept separate from other bubbles at all times. We have organised staggered playtimes and lunchtimes to accommodate this. There will be no formal gatherings in the hall (lunches / assemblies). Assemblies will continue but will be done via Zoom, enabling us to meet as a whole school safely. I will also run a rota of assemblies to see each class from a social distance outside for an assembly or story time. The school has been **zoned** for indoor and outdoor learning as well as play for each bubble.

Zones - Inside

- Each class bubble will have its own classroom and resources.
- The classroom will be for learning and for lunch time eating (no hall dining). Picnic lunches will be eaten outside when possible.
- Toilets have been designated to certain classes.

Zones - Outside

- Playtimes will be staggered so that classes do not mix.
- Each class will have a designated area of the playground/field.
- During playtimes children will have access to their own class play equipment.
- Where an area has to be partitioned, we will do so with bunting fencing.
- Movement around school will be restricted to the classroom and toilets only.

Classrooms - What will it look like?

- A more formal layout of tables and chairs so that children are forward facing as required and there is 2m distancing for the teacher from the children.
- To create space, unnecessary furniture has been removed.
- Space and areas have been created where continuous provision for EYFS is needed.
- Soft furnishings (rugs, cushions, drapes if on displays that children can touch) have been removed.
- Surfaces will be clear for easy clean.
- Children will have their own table / workstation and chair, which they will sit at for their indoor lessons.
- They will have their own equipment (including stationery) and daily resources (books; some equipment) that will be kept in a tray or box.
- The tray/box will be kept at the child's work station and all the child's work will be kept in it.
- The learning environment – displays and learning walls will remain as an essential part of making the classroom feel normal for the children.

Hygiene

- Regular handwashing and keeping the school clean will be key to keeping the virus away.
- Your child will sanitise / hand wash on arrival and throughout the school day.
- Hand sanitisers are available in each classroom and hand washing facilities are either in classrooms or in close proximity to them.
- A comprehensive cleaning programme has been put in place to ensure all surfaces, contact points, equipment and toilets are thoroughly cleaned across the school day.

Learning

- A 'recovery curriculum' will be in place in September.
- A lot of the early learning in the first few weeks will be focussed on mental health and wellbeing, learning to learn and socialise in a new way as well as a focus on personal hygiene and hand washing.
- Time will be spent initially finding out where each child is at with their learning from the previous academic year and what gaps in the children's learning need closing in order for them to be able to start learning work in their current academic year.
- Additional daily phonics and reading lessons/activities will be a priority and we will be following the 'ready for progress' maths guidelines to ensure these core skills are at the fore of all we do to help get the children back on track.
- Staff are working on new ways of organising the children's learning but ensuring that the children do not lose their enthusiasm and love of learning that our curriculum gives them.
- Where possible, learning will be outside. It is widely acknowledged that outdoor learning and physical activity have huge benefits for good health and wellbeing.

Toilets and cloakrooms

- Each class bubble will have a designated toilet block; these will be unisex
- Where two classes share a toilet block; we have staggered playtime / lunchtimes to reduce use by two classes at the same time. Boys and girls will also use the toilet at slightly different times eg boys first; then girls; vice versa.
- Children will be supervised using the toilets to ensure there is no unnecessary congestion and children are following the 20 second hand washing rule
- Cloakrooms will not be used initially; coats will be put on the back of an individual child's chair or under work station, except for children in Little Wrens or YR

Transition back to school - how to support your child, what you need to do...

We have had to make lots of changes to school to keep your child and your family safe and it is important the children understand these. To help your child have the most positive experience transitioning back to school it is important that they know what they will find when they return.

Please help to prepare them by:

- Talking to them over a period of time (not just the weekend before returning) about returning to school and the changes. *'You're going to have your very own table and a special tray/box for all your school things – that'll be lovely won't it'...* 'I've heard Miss/Mrs X/ Mr Z has planned some fantastic activities and games for when you go back – that'll be really exciting. I wonder what they might be. Do you have any ideas?'
- Explain the changes but also (from what you've read above) where you know things are still the same eg meet and greet entrance/ a classroom / teacher ... make those a real positive.
- Talk about the learning they had been doing when they left. Talk about all the lovely learning done at home and how the teacher is going to really enjoying hearing all about it.
- Keep your voiced / expressed feelings positive, try to avoid 'worried' talk eg 'Am I doing the right thing?' being expressed in front of your child or overheard by your child.
- Try to avoid being over clingy/protective in your behaviours with your child; whilst understandable, this will only increase separation difficulties.

We have created a small booklet for you to complete with your child; this should be brought to school on the first day. This will help the teacher understand more about your child during school closure: their feelings; behaviours; things they have enjoyed doing etc.

Expectations of parents

For some of you, stepping out and returning to work will already have happened and your confidence in being out and about will have grown. For some of you, this will not have been the case and you will understandably be concerned about the 'new norm'. As a parent you may have had to deliberate a lot about whether sending your child back to school is the right thing. We understand.

To help each other and all of us readjust we ask that you, **at all times**,

- Social distance
- Use the entrances, exits and one way systems around the school site that we have put in place
- Drop and pick up your child **ONLY within or at** the allocated times – do not be early or late.
- Only one parent to drop off and pick up
- No loitering/chatting after drop off or pick up on site or just outside school grounds to support social distancing
- Children must have their own named **water** bottles
- Children to wear school uniform daily except PE day
- Children to come in PE Kit and correct PE footwear on their PE day
- Children to only bring a coat IF weather forecast is rain or cold weather in first few weeks
- Packed lunches brought in a disposable bag
- No school bags or personal belonging/toys/books from home.
- Only visit the office by prior appointment – telephone for an appointment/information
- Attendance will be monitored once restarting and children are expected to attend all sessions that school is open. We have to follow government guidelines regarding non-attendance.

Illness

- If your child suffers from asthma – an asthma plan **MUST** be completed. This will be emailed to parents for completion and returned with inhalers on first day back. If your child has recently started to use an inhaler, please email office so that you, too, will receive the form.
- Your child **should not be sent to school** if they have any Covid symptoms: continuous cough, high temperature, loss of smell or taste. Your child is now able to be tested and should be.
- Equally, a child with a heavy cold, sneezing a lot, sickness and/or diarrhoea (48hrs) should stay off school. To safeguard themselves and their families, our staff will not be able to afford unnecessary close contact with your child and any potential spread of infection to staff or other children has to be limited in school. *Coronavirus hasn't gone away; we need to work together to keep each other safe because 'we all matter'*. Please support us in doing this.

The Nest: Thank you for booking your places as requested. We CANNOT take adhoc at this time.

On behalf of all of the Wrenbury Team, thank you for your continued understanding and support as we prepare for your child to re-join school. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you and your child back soon.

Bessa Cadour