



WyreForestSchool



WyreForestSchool

Communication Specialist

4th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well and have enjoyed the glorious weather we have had. Let's hope that wasn't the summer! We remained open over half term and Bank Holiday for the critical workers and most vulnerable children and I thank the staff for that.

Thank you for the Parents who sent messages of support about what we are doing as a school, it's been a challenge for us all and I am hoping we can now see light at the end of the tunnel.

We have been busy making plans of how we can safely accommodate those pupils wishing to return before 17th July. We have a one-way system in school, locked 'bubble' rooms, handwashing facilities, cleaning protocols in place, rotas for playgrounds etc. We are hoping we have covered all bases and that we don't have to slow the process down or even worse, close completely. I will keep you posted as to how it goes. Hopefully the next few weeks people will continue to be careful, we won't have a second spike, and we can bring some normality and hope to the country. I really long for the day when I stand by the door in the morning welcoming all the children in. It really is the best bit of the day, and I have missed it terribly.

Just so you know what I'm referring to, a bubble at our school is a group of pupils and staff who will spend all day together in one room or outside until the end of term. This is to help reduce the spread of infection if we have a COVID-19 case.

To increase the available 'outdoor' space to pupil 'bubbles' and to enable more social distancing, we are using Russell House for a group of pupils where it is appropriate. This means we will not be reopening our residential until September, as we will not be able to deep clean in readiness for residents of an evening. We apologise for any issues this may have.

Please remember that on the media the pupils returning to school are mainstream pupils; rarely do they remember special schools or their families. We are increasing our numbers slowly as per a strict risk assessment and operational protocols. I know I have disappointed a few parents and for that I am truly sorry, but I need to make sure pupils and staff are as safe as possible.

Those returning to school that use transport will hopefully see numbers greatly reduced on them to ensure social distancing. If you have any problems with transport, please phone them direct or let school know. They have worked hard to try and meet all the needs we currently have.

Due to the large numbers wanting to remain at home until September, we will continue with the current support from the class teams. I know they have done an amazing job and I am very proud of them all. To date our You Tube channel has had 33,000 hits!!!

The free school meal vouchers will continue until the end of term. Pupils attending school before the 17th July will need to bring their lunch with them in a wipeable container.

By the end of this week you will receive a letter with the staffing for September 2020. Where possible this has been kept exactly as it currently is, but, we have a lot of maternity covers and a couple of promotions which has led to a few changes. In September we will give you the staffing for after October half term and begin a proper transition.

Year 11 leavers, technically leave 26th June but I have asked staff just to have a weekly check in with the pupils to see how they are doing. We will make sure that the leavers events that we have had to postpone take place as soon as it is safe to do so.

Some parents have been worried about some of the fake news appearing on Facebook and other social media about schools forcing children to take vaccines and other such nonsense. We will not be doing anything of the sort and hopefully, those of you with children in other schools, will realise that WFS keeps you well up to date with information.

Please remember to keep talking with your class teams, and if you need any help or support let us know and we will try our very best.



Yours truly,

Rebecca Garratt
Headteacher