



WyreForestSchool



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Communication Specialist

18th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. We have welcomed more pupils back this week and have tested our protocols even further – especially when it poured with rain at the end of the day yesterday! It has raised a few issues which we need to sort, mainly leaving the school at the end of the school day safely. Even with a small number of pupils in, trying to keep them socially distanced and get them on transport is very challenging. Please can I ask parents not to congregate around the pedestrian gate – you need to ensure you are socially distancing as well. We will call you forward to collect your child. We also will not be delivering pupils to your car – please be ready to collect so we can move people on as quickly as possible. The one-way system in school is working well and so are the ‘bubbles’. I know some of the pupils are frustrated they can’t leave their ‘bubble’ but unfortunately this is what we need to do.

We are now awaiting further government guidance about September and are working towards what school will look like then. Keeping staff and pupils safe remains my number one priority. Once we have a draft plan we will take it to Governors and hopefully get it out to you 10th July in order for you to have enough notice. Obviously, it is all subject to change and will have to be risk assessed. We already know it will look very different with no offsite activities or moving around to specialist classrooms to begin with. If you are looking to buy new lunchboxes for September, please ensure they are wipeable.

Our COVID-19 operational handbook has been approved by Worcestershire and it is on our website

https://www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk/_site/data/files/policies/985557A79704B3ADABF8097E9B7BB60D.pdf along with our risk assessment

https://www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk/_site/data/files/policies/EB7E182240EAAA61AA52BC4E9705843F.pdf and further advice from Public Health England

https://www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk/_site/data/files/policies/1EC9EF52609CA27188E45A8F471E5EA5.pdf

Lotte Tvede is busy organising holiday club for the 6 weeks (starting Tuesday 21st July). **We are, however, still awaiting confirmation form the Local Authority that it can go ahead,** but we are more than happy for it to take place on the school site.

The school office is now manned between 8.30am and 4.00pm if you need to telephone us. We will not be letting parents into the school building unless an appointment has been made. We are closing at 4pm to enable the cleaners to do a thorough clean every night.

Test and Trace Service

It's really important that you take immediate action to be tested if you start to develop any of the symptoms of coronavirus.

Just to remind you all again, the symptoms include a new continuous cough, a high temperature and a loss of or change in your normal sense of taste or smell. It's important to act quickly if you develop symptoms of coronavirus, as this will help to protect you and those who you come into contact with.

The test itself involves taking a swab of the nose and back of the throat. You can do the test yourself, or someone else can do it for you. You can get tested by visiting a regional testing site or ordering a test to be done at home.

The NHS will then get back in touch with you with your results and more information depending on the result. You must continue to self-isolate whilst you wait for the results. The first step to take is to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the start of any symptoms and then order a test by visiting www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling 119.

If the test comes back negative, then members of your household will no longer need to self-isolate and if you feel well, you can also stop self-isolating.

If the test is positive, you will need to complete the rest of your 7-day self-isolation, unless you continue to have a high temperature, in which case you should continue to self-isolate until this returns to normal.

If you live with other people, all other household members must stay at home for 14 days, unless they also develop symptoms of coronavirus. If they develop symptoms, then they should also book a test right away.

People who have tested positive will then be contacted by 'contact tracers' from the NHS Test to talk them through their next steps. They will also need to share information with the team about their recent interactions.

This could include household members, people with whom they have been in direct contact with or within 2 metres from someone for more than 15 minutes.

People identified as having been in close contact with someone who has a positive test must stay at home for 14 days, even if they do not have symptoms, to stop unknowingly spreading the virus.

For more information on Test and Trace please visit:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus

School Transport During Covid-19 Pandemic – Advice for Parents

The following [Government guidance](#) on safer travel during Coronavirus (COVID-19) is something you need to consider before using school transport.

- **Public transport should be avoided where possible, instead walk, cycle, or drive your child to school**
- To help keep your child and fellow students safe, your child should not travel if:

- They are experiencing any [coronavirus symptoms](#);
- They are [self-isolating as a result of coronavirus symptoms or sharing a household with somebody with symptoms](#);
- They are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#).
 - Social distancing applies to children as well as adults. Children should keep their distance from others who are not in their household, where possible. Public Health England recommends [keeping a 2 metre distance from others](#). If this isn't possible children should avoid physical contact, face away from others, and keep the time spent near others as short as possible.
 - Your child should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds or sanitise their hands before the journey and as soon as possible after the journey
 - Face coverings:
- If your child is over 3 years old they must wear a face covering when travelling on public transport;
- Children in secondary education (not primary school children or children who attend special schools) should wear a face covering on school transport. They must be able to use a face covering as per the directions below and will require 2 face coverings one for the journey there and one for the journey back;
- Some people may not be able to wear a face covering, for example primary aged children, people with breathing difficulties and people whose disabilities makes it difficult for them to wear a face covering;
- A face covering is not the same as the surgical masks or respirators used by healthcare and other workers as part of personal protective equipment. These should continue to be reserved for those who need them to protect against risks in their workplace, such as health and care workers, and those in industrial settings, like those exposed to dust hazards;
- The driver and support staff and other passengers may be wearing face coverings, you should talk to your child about this before the journey.

Wearing a face covering

- A cloth face covering should cover your mouth and nose while allowing you to breathe comfortably. It can be as simple as a scarf or bandana that ties behind the head;
- Wash your hands or use hand sanitiser before putting it on and after taking it off. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth at all times and store used face coverings in a plastic bag until you have an opportunity to wash them;
- Do not touch the front of the face covering, or the part of the face covering that has been in contact with your mouth and nose. Once removed, make sure you clean any surfaces the face covering has touched;
- You should wash a face covering regularly. It can go in with other laundry, using your normal detergent;
- When wearing a face covering, take care to tuck away any loose ends;
- When traveling in taxis or private hire vehicles your child should follow the advice of the driver. For example, they may be asked to sit in the back left hand seat if travelling alone. If they need to be near other people they should avoid physical contact, try not to be face to face with other people, and keep the time spent near other people as short as possible. Be aware of the surfaces they or others touch.

Your child is spending much more time at home.

Do you know how to help keep them safe online?



If you're distracted during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic (and who isn't?), and your child is spending a lot of time online, it could be a perfect storm for cybercriminals.

SWITCHED



To your children's online world

Read our expert advice on keeping them safe.
www.getsafeonline.org/kidsathome

#kidsathome

@getsafeonline



Please remember if you need anything or we can help in any way to let your class teams know and we will try and support.

We continue to work to support families and get them back to school as and when it is safe to do so.

With Kind Regards,

Handwritten signature of Rebecca Garratt.

Rebecca Garratt
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