



The Whartons Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Julia Dickson

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the latest update from government The Whartons Primary School will embark upon a phased wider opening of school beginning on Tuesday 2nd June.

In order to gradually increase the number of children in school and to facilitate the embedding of new routines and procedures, we will spread the return of focus year groups 6, 1 and reception over a two week period.

The first group of pupils invited to return is Year 6 students on Tuesday 2nd June. The total number of children in this year group will be divided in to two separate 'bubble' groups. The Year 6 teachers, Mrs Foley and Mrs Thompson will plan for the whole class and Mrs Kettleborough alongside Mrs Hughes will facilitate the planned learning for one of the groups. We have been working with PHGS and a large proportion of the work being covered will be transition activities set by staff at PHGS. This will include virtual tours of the school and online presentations by PHGS key staff members.

On Monday 8th June the school will welcome back Y1 children. Again the total number of children will be divided in to two 'bubble' groups. The class teachers Mrs Dowell and Mrs Biller will plan learning for the whole class and lead one 'bubble' group, while Mrs Reynard and Miss Dickson will facilitate the learning in the second 'bubble'. Due to staffing and not being able to mix staff across 'bubbles' it will be necessary that, for **Year 1 children** school **opens later on a Wednesday morning at 11am**. This is to facilitate planning and preparation time for teachers.

On Monday 15th June the school will welcome back Reception children. Although the whole of the reception class will be counted as one 'bubble' due to the small class size, there will be two rooms for reception children to move between. One room will be set out for phonics, writing and maths teaching and the other will be set out with paired back provision play areas. There will be an EYFS team including 4 members of staff who will spread over the two rooms ensuring no more than 7 or 8 children per room. This will support social distancing for these young children whilst providing a familiar style of learning. The outside area will also be utilised.

In order to ensure procedures are as safe as possible, rigorous risk assessments have been carried out and a detailed set of procedures written up for staff.





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The key logistical practices are set out as follows:

- Each bubble will have a separate set of toilets and washing facilities and only one child at a time will be able to access these.
- Each bubble will have a staggered drop off and pick up time which will be shared with parents once bubbles have been established and before children return.
- Each year group will have a separate entrance gate and drop off point. There is a colour coded plan of these which will be sent to parents and posted up around school. All gates will also be signposted. Year 6 children will be dropped off at the gate by parents.
- Children will line up at 2m distances as demarcated by cones on the playground or on the path outside classroom fire exits. These exits will be used to access classrooms to limit use of corridors.
- All classrooms have individual desks which have been set up with 2m distancing between children (with the exception of reception provision areas where only two children can play in a space and will be reminded to distance and not touch)
- Equipment will limited be cleaned regularly throughout the day with anti-viral spray.
- All lunches will be eaten in classrooms. Leeds catering are offering an adjusted menu of hot and cold 'Grab Bags' which can be ordered as usually done for school meals or children can bring their own packed lunch. A menu will be shared with parents before children return.
- Children must bring a freshly washed and filled water bottle to school each day. At a couple of intervals during the day a member of staff will fill water bottles from the coolers in school.
- Children may bring their own equipment which can be kept in school on their individual desk, although school will provide basic pencil/ruler pack for each child. No large bags please as children will store their belongings under their tables or in a designated area for reception children.
- Each year group will be sent a survey to complete, which identifies if their child/ren will be attending school. If at a later date you wish your child to join their year group in school you must contact school and wait for confirmation of a place. You must not send children unless school know and have agreed when they will be returning. This is so we are aware in advance of all children who will be attending.
- Please let us know, as per usual procedures, if you child will not be attending.
- You must notify school if you, or any member of your family, is unwell and **not enter the school grounds if anyone has symptoms of COVID 19**. School have a duty to inform the authority of any suspected cases.
- You must be tested for Corona virus if you show any symptoms, and inform school so we can action protocols and enter in to the test and trace procedures.
- Emergency contacts need to be up to date and any calls from school answered promptly as any child showing symptoms will be separated from the group and will need to be collected.





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- Staff have supplies of PPE which they will use when attending to first aid issues or when a child shows any signs or symptoms of COVID 19
- Children will be taught, and reminded, how to carry out safe hygiene measures from washing hands for 20 seconds to catching coughs and sneezes in tissues which are put in to lidded bins.
- School has assigned one classroom space to move a group to if there are any signs of COVID, whilst their assigned room is left empty for 72 hours and then cleaned
- There will be an assigned mid-day supervisor for each bubble.
- No visitors will be able to enter the school building or come to the office window. If you have forgotten to give your child an item we will have a drop box in the porch where you can deposited the item. A member of office staff will retrieve the item once the porch is empty. If you need to speak to the office please ring.

I apologise for the length of this letter but I hope it clarifies some of the procedures we are putting in place to keep children and staff safe during this time.

Please look out for the email link survey to complete in the period running up to your child's year group start date.

Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing more of you over the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely,
Julia Dickson (Headteacher)

