

19th August 2020

Re – September opening

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your children have all managed to have some kind of break following the extraordinary six months we have all gone through. You will all no doubt be aware that, barring a local lockdown, all schools are expected to fully open for all pupils and all staff from September. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some details regarding the steps we are taking to make the school ready for opening in September.

Attendance of all pupils

Although the expectation is for all pupils to attend school from September, the guidance recognises that there may be some children who are no longer expected to shield, but remain under the care of a specialist health professional, and who may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning in September. Please let us know via admin@western.n-yorks.sch.uk if this applies to your child.

Staggered start

As referenced in my letter of 16th July, school will be open on Wednesday 9th September for **some Nursery and Reception pupils (see details below)** and for pupils in Years 1, 3 and 5. From Thursday 10th September, school will be fully open for pupils in all year groups. The reason for this staggered opening is to enable us to manage any unforeseen difficulties (particularly around lunch arrangements) with fewer pupils in school.

Bubble system

We will be operating from September in an extended bubble system as detailed below. Please note that some amendments to this table have been made for Early Years' pupils since you last saw it in July.

Please also note the following details relating to pupils in Nursery and Reception:

- On 9th September, Nursery and Reception provision will be for new starters only
- Nursery will be open for all nursery pupils as normal from Friday 11th September
- Other Reception pupils will begin a staggered return to school from Monday 14th September as detailed in a letter parents received in July



Bubbles:

1. EYFS
2. KS1
3. Y3/4
4. Y5/6

Start of school day

	EYFS	KS1	Y3/4	Y5/6
Entrance/exit	Back of school	Main entrance	Side entrance	Car park
8.50	Nursery	Taylor	Coatesworth	Brooke
9.00	Magill	Sykes	Smith	Chadwick
9.10	Whitelow	Ward	Collett	Riddle
9.20		Hebblewhite	Wray	Howes/Sadowski

End of school day

	EYFS	KS1	Y3/4	Y5/6
Entrance/exit	Back of school	Main entrance	Side entrance	Car park
2.45	Nursery			
3.10	Magill	Taylor	Coatesworth	Brooke
3.20	Whitelow	Sykes	Smith	Chadwick
3.30		Ward	Collett	Riddle
3.40		Hebblewhite	Wray	Howes/Sadowski

Further details, relating to the 'rules' for pupils and parents at the start and end of the school day, will be outlined in the next round of communications at the end of this month.



Current position

Since the [revised guidance](#) was published on 7th August, the Senior Leadership Team have had a number of meetings in order to ensure the school can comply with the guidance and be ready to open in September. We are in the process of developing our risk assessment and action plan which we will present to the Trust on Tuesday 25th August. I have listed below, some of the actions we are taking to prepare for September.

- Additional non-alcohol hand sanitiser stations are being installed to supplement our hand washing facilities for pupils and staff
- Lunchtimes and breaktimes have been rescheduled to prevent contact between the four bubbles
- Assembly arrangements have also been revised for the same reasons
- We have consulted with the Trust and our cleaning providers to ensure that additional cleaning will take place during the school day and to ensure that a deep clean of the school is completed before we open
- Where appropriate, desks in classrooms have been moved such that all pupils are forward facing
- Perspex screens will be used where appropriate when pupils are being supported in a one-to-one setting
- We are liaising closely with Kids at Heart to ensure their provision matches our own bubble system; their provision, along with Western's breakfast and after school clubs, will resume on Monday 14th September

Catering

You may be aware that significant building works are taking place at school during this holiday which includes developments in the canteen and kitchen. I have been assured that our catering facilities will be up and running for the start of the new term. However, we do have a contingency plan in place if this situation changes in any way. I will of course keep you informed.

Further communications

I know that you will have many questions and concerns. There will be further communications sent out in the week beginning 31st August. These will include a comprehensive letter from me, along with phase-specific letters from each phase leader. Hopefully, these letters will provide the answers to all of your questions and concerns. I would also encourage parents to let us know, as we approach the start of term, if the challenges the past few months have brought have resulted in significant changes in terms of the support your child might need at school.

Information for parents and carers can also be found by visiting this dedicated [government website](#).

I know that school will still be different in September but we are looking forward to welcoming back all of our pupils, parents and staff and to getting on with the business of developing our children and helping them to flourish and succeed.

Kind regards,



Tim Broad

Kind regards,

Tim Broad
Acting Headteacher

