

**Information for Year 6 Parents**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to update you on our plans for wider re-opening to Year 6.

Government guidance states that schools must prioritise key worker and vulnerable children first, followed by the youngest children. Following continuous risk assessment, we are now in a position to be able to invite Year 6 children back to school on a part-time rota basis. Due to staffing and space restrictions, we’re unable to offer full time to Year 6 children but are very keen to give them the opportunity to return to school before the summer. They have been missed!

We are planning for 2 groups from Monday 29th June as follows:

Group 1: **Mondays and Tuesdays** 8:30am-12:30pm
Group 2: **Thursdays and Fridays** 8:30am-12:30pm

Wednesday will be allocated for a deep clean of the classroom between groups. Groups will be decided once we know the children who are returning to school. As a school, we have provided information on how we will work to keep your child safe but we respect your decision, as parents, about whether to send your child back to school this term.

The safety of children, parents and staff is our highest priority and a number of measures have been put in place as a result. Therefore, please be aware, this will not be school as any of us know it. School and classroom organisation have significantly changed. Year 6 children will be in a group of no more than 12 children and will be with Miss Howells. Movement around school will be limited and each group of children will not mix with any other group in school. Please note, if your child requires Childcare outside of these times, they will need to remain with the Childcare group. Unfortunately, the children cannot change groups within a week.

The Government have acknowledged that social distancing measures followed in society will be very difficult to maintain within a primary school. **Whilst we will do our best to implement social distancing, I want to make it clear that we CANNOT guarantee this.**  Children naturally move towards one another and it **will not** be possible to maintain social distancing at all times.

Please let Miss Howells know via Class Dojo whether your child will return to school next week or if they will continue to learn at home. **We need to know by Wednesday 4pm so that we can plan for their return.**  If you would like to discuss any concerns further before making a decision, please request a phone call and we’ll ring you as soon as we can. If we haven’t heard from you, we’ll contact you on Thursday morning. Groups will be confirmed on Thursday afternoon, when we know who is returning.

**Entry to School**
Year 6 children will be asked to enter school at the green gate next to the allotments and must enter at this gate between 8.30am and 8.45am. Only one parent is allowed to drop off/pick up their child. Parents must stay outside of these gates and we ask you to ensure you maintain social distance. Pick up will be at 12:30pm from the same gate.

If your child doesn’t return to school on 29th June but you decide later that you want to send them back, please ensure you contact us the week before, so that we can review groups and numbers. They will then start the following Monday after you have contacted us. You must not just turn up with your child, as we won’t be able to accommodate this with no notice.

**What children should wear/bring to school**
Children should wear their school uniform t-shirt and sweatshirt. Year 6 can also wear their Leavers’ hoodie if they would like to. However, they do not need to wear school trousers/skirts. Dark colours/grey/black jogging bottoms, leggings, shorts and trainers can be worn. As children will not be changing for PE, this may be more practical. Children must wear washed and clean clothes each day to minimise risk of transmission. You may want to make sure your child has sun cream on before coming into school as there may be more time spent outside.

Children must not bring in anything else daily, **except for a water bottle** which must also be clearly named, and a mid-morning snack.  **Please ensure your child brings in their own water bottle which will be returned for thorough cleaning at the end of each day.**

Your child **MUST NOT** bring in anything else. They must not bring bags, toys, footballs, stationery etc. We need to limit any items going between home and school.

**Mid-morning snack**As children will not have a meal in school, please send in a healthy snack for your child to have mid- morning (no crisps/chocolate/sweets).

**Communication with staff**Parents are not allowed to enter the school building due to current guidelines and risk assessment. Contact with school will continue to be electronic Class Dojo, email or telephone.

**Curriculum**The curriculum will be focussed on emotional wellbeing and making sense of new routines. Miss Howells will also deliver lessons around Relationships and Sex Education, which was planned for the summer term. Children will also complete a short, fun project to celebrate their time at Witton Gilbert Primary School.

**Class Dojo/Home Learning**
We’re aware of the great work that has been happening educating your children at home in the most challenging of circumstances. Staff have worked hard to support you with this. However, please be aware that Miss Howells will not be able to access Class Dojo as frequently, as she will be combining home and school learning. Home learning will still be set for the days your child isn’t in school.

**Symptoms**
A reminder that if your child or any member of your household is experiencing COVID 19 symptoms, you MUST let us know. Should your child display any symptoms in school, you will be contacted immediately.

**SAFETY MEASURES FOR PUPILS**For more information, please read the ‘Safety Measures for Pupils, Parents and Staff’ document. It can be found on the school website. We have now changed to our new school website but this document can still be found by clicking on the ‘Welcome Back’ link and then ‘What Parents Need to Know’. It contains important information about how school and parents need to work together to keep everyone as safe as possible.

All these precautions have been put in place to help prevent the spread of the virus and to ensure that we take as much care as possible in keeping us all safe and well within the school environment. I hope this has given you more information regarding how the school will operate during these difficult and testing times. Our school community has been incredibly supportive over the past few weeks and we want to continue to work in partnership with you.

If you would like to discuss any of the information further, please get in touch.

Kind regards

Mrs Nelson and Miss Howells