



26 February 2021

Dear parents/ carers,

On Monday the long awaited government briefing finally confirmed that all pupils will return to school on Monday 8th March and, as you can imagine, we have been busy planning the full reopening following the new government guidance which was also released at this time.

Please be reassured that if your children have completed the daily lessons throughout lockdown they will have covered the curriculum and should not find themselves disadvantaged academically. However, as many parents have shared throughout the past two months, the area of greatest concern was the feeling of isolation by many of our children and the desire to be connected with their friends and teachers. Upon returning, we will assess the children and will adapt our medium term plans in order to minimise any gaps in pupils' knowledge and skills.

The government briefing made clear that school attendance will be mandatory again from the 8th March and we will return to full time provision with the resumption of clubs in year group bubbles. SCL breakfast club and WAVES wrap around care will also resume on this date and will continue to be year group based. In order to keep costs down following any growth spurts, from the 8th children will be allowed to wear summer uniform if families wish.

We will continue to operate as four separate year group 'bubbles', much like the autumn term. There will be no mixing between year groups during the school day and in wrap around care. In line with government guidance, we anticipate that despite our risk assessment and mitigations, social distancing will not be possible within each year group and children will mix with other classes in the same year during maths and English when we split into smaller groups. However, there will be stringent social distancing so that year groups do not come into contact with each other. Staff who mix between year groups will be kept to a minimum. Those who need to work between year groups, for example Mr Cassim and Madame Hunt, are clear about the protocols and procedures and have made the necessary adaptations to their curriculum plans to accommodate this.

In order to ensure the year group bubbles do not mix we will continue with the timetabling that was used in autumn term. Details are included below.

As the government has stipulated that parents and family should not come into school without a pre booked appointment and should also not gather around the school site; we request that **parents remain in their car at drop off and pick up**. If you need to contact the office you can use our normal email address info@waverley-abbey.surrey.sch.uk or ring the school and leave a message. If required to, the office will then either respond to your email or phone call.

As was the case in autumn term, if your child is unwell, please phone the office to let them know. If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19 please follow government guidance and keep them home for 10 days, seeking advice from your GP and informing the school office as soon as possible. Further details regarding booking a covid-19 test can be found from <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

During this time, data protection including confidentiality arrangements continue to be followed at all times. We will not be sharing the names of any staff or children with either confirmed or suspected cases or coronavirus. We please ask that any confirmed or suspected cases you are aware of are not discussed on social media or other platforms such as WhatsApp.

According to Government guidance, primary age children and staff do not need to wear face coverings or masks or any other form of personal protective equipment (PPE) when in school. However, staff will wear a



face mask both in shared spaces and other forms of PPE, if a child becomes unwell with Covid-19 symptoms and needs direct personal care.

How the day will look

In the morning, we will operate a drop off system. Please drive up to any of our car parks in front of the main building between 8.20 and 8.35 each day, remaining in the car. Your child will then disembark and walk onto their year group playground. Please remind them to keep 2m apart from children from other year groups. The children will be collected from the playground by one of their class adults at 8.35. Before entering the building they will sanitise their hands and go straight to their classroom. **It is essential that children are not dropped off any earlier than 8.20am** as there will be no adults on playgrounds at this point and we cannot guarantee their safety or that they are following the school's risk assessment.

In order to safely accommodate all traffic on site and maintain distancing between bubbles, pick up times will be staggered and each class will be allocated a specific playground for collection. **Please do not arrive on site arrive more than a few minutes prior to your child's pick up time** as each playground will already be full with cars from other year groups. The times are as follows;

- Year 6 – 3pm (40 minute lunchbreak to accommodate core teaching hours)
- Year 5 – 3.10pm (50 minute lunchbreak to accommodate core teaching hours)
- Year 4 – 3.20pm
- Year 3 – 3.30pm (10 minute afternoon break added to school day)

A few minutes prior to your child's allocated pick up time, please drive to the allocated pick up playground zone. The teacher will lead their class to that zone and your child will make their way straight to your car. Please do not get out of the car. If you have more than one child to collect please ensure all family members know where your car will be so they can walk to you.

Attached is the school risk assessment which will come into effect on March 8th and will also be published on our website on this date as well as the pick-up car park plan. Please note that these arrangements are subject to change at any time and at short notice. Government guidance is constantly being updated and therefore we may need to re-evaluate our risk assessment and decision to open on a regular basis.

An update will be sent to families further on in the term, when we have received government guidelines around swimming and competitive sport.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact either through the phoning the school office or by E mail

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our whole community back!

Mrs Rebecca Marshall
Headteacher