



# Whitstable Junior School

Oxford Street, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 1DB

Tel: (01227) 272385

Headteacher: Mrs. Annie Knoue BA (Hons) PGCE

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Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Ref: Update planning for reopening on 1<sup>st</sup> June

Dear Parents & Carers,

Firstly can I apologise for the length of this letter but I do ask that you read it fully as it contains very important information regarding children returning to school.

The latest guidance in relation to how schools should plan to reopen is below. Reading it will give parents an insight as to how schools could open, should they do so on June 1<sup>st</sup>:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools>

It is clear from the guidance that it is for schools in their local context to decide how to open as all schools face slightly different challenges with buildings and staffing.

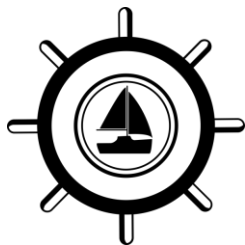
Also we do not know if the Prime Minister and his scientific advisers will reduce the national risk level from 4 to 3, so that the nation enters stage 2 of recovery which includes the reopening of schools. This must happen in order for this date to be met and we may not know this has happened until 28<sup>th</sup> May. However, WJS are preparing to open for Year 6 children and Key Worker/Vulnerable children on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

We have written a comprehensive risk assessment taking into account all areas that we need to consider regarding the return to school during the outbreak of the Coronavirus.

Below I outline how we plan to follow the guidance we have been given to keep the children and staff as safe as we can.

- Children will return to “bubbles” of 15 children maximum. This is to reduce risk and mixing. (For example, if all our 67 Year 6 pupils return – 5 “bubbles” will be required and they will not mix). Many children therefore may not be taught by their own teacher, although the teacher will oversee the learning.
- Social distancing will be taught and encouraged. However, it is widely acknowledged that this will be very challenging for children. Strong emphasis will be put on the 2-metre rule being enforced to maintain the gap between adults and children; in line with the difference in risk by adults compared to children.
- There will be staggered arrival and departure times.
- PPE is not required in most circumstances. Children and staff can wear face coverings if it makes them feel more comfortable and we will not prevent them from doing so.
- **The school day will finish early every Friday** (from 1pm) to enable thorough cleaning to take place for the start of the next week when new children may be starting school and joining “bubbles”. You will be notified of the specific start time, entrance and finish times that relate to your child once we know if your child is attending.





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- **Only Key Worker children can remain until 3pm on Fridays.**
- Only children registered by the previous Thursday will be considered for entry the following week. There will be no midweek additions to class bubbles under any circumstances, the start of every week will be teaching of social distancing principles. A link for you to register your child will open at 12 midday on Monday every week and will close on Thursday at 12 midday.
- Children can bring a packed lunch to school with them or pay for a school packed lunch in the normal way. **Children who are entitled will have school packed lunch provided as part of the Free School Meal offer and the EDEN Red supermarket vouchers will stop for your child.** We will not be offering a cooked school meal.
- Packed lunches will be eaten in the classroom designated for each Bubble.
- There will be no breakfast or after school clubs.
- Year 6 children attending will be eased back into curriculum for their year group. Curriculum needs will be balanced with the welfare of all being our top priority.
- Year 6 children and Key Worker children will be asked to wear school uniform however we will fully understand that there may be difficulties getting uniform in which case sensible non-uniform can be worn. Children will not be able to bring PE kits to school and so on PE days can come to school in their PE kit or clothes suitable for PE. Trainers can be worn on all days if required and do not need to be black.
- For children not attending we will continue with home learning.
- Any siblings of children in Year 6 will not be allowed to attend school at this time. Parents will not be fined for non-attendance, nor will the school be accountable for attendance data during this time.

## Important Actions for Year 6 Parents or Key Worker Parents

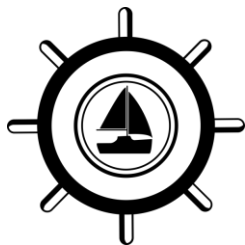
In order to ensure that we have the appropriate arrangements in place we will need to know a week in advance if your child is coming to school. You will need to let us know by midday on the Thursday before the start of the next week if your child will be attending school. You will be sent a weekly link to do this.

Year 6 children will have to attend the full week.

If you are a Key Worker and your child is in Year 6 they have to attend the full week.

Key Worker parents of children not in Year 6 can select which full days they wish their child to attend, collection is now 3pm and cannot be earlier.





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**We will need to know by Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 12 midday if you intend to send your child to school on the 1<sup>st</sup> June (assuming the Government has said it is safe for specific year groups to return).**

**We need both Key Worker children and Year 6 children to be registered. If you do not register your child they will NOT be able to attend school from the 1<sup>st</sup> June to 5<sup>th</sup> June.**

We understand you may still be waiting for guidance from the Government but unfortunately we need to have numbers this week as we are closed for half term next week.

**To register your child's attendance for the week commencing Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June, please use this surveymonkey link:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9M93W7Z>



or use this QR code.

to give a definite answer on whether your child will be attending or not. This is **ONLY** for Year 6 children and Key Worker children.

I hope you can appreciate that this has been an enormous task for us and every decision we have made has been to limit any risk to children and adults.

Finally, I hope this information was useful, I will write to you if I have any further updates to give you. I understand that every parent and carer needs to make their own decision based on what is best for their family. We will support you whatever decision you make.

Take care and stay alert!

Warm wishes,  
Annie Knoupe  
Headteacher

