

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Headteacher: Deena Chetty

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Email: school@downsellprimary.waltham.sch.uk

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10th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you are aware, following the government advice, we are re-opening our school next week for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. Members of staff have been working very hard over the last two weeks to ensure the school is safe for children to return.

The return will be staggered and children will be attending the school on a reduced timetable, as follows:

Monday 15th June - Year 6, 8:45 am - 12:30 pm, for the first 2 weeks Tuesday 16th June - Year 1, 9 am - 12:15 pm
Wednesday 17th June - Reception, 9 am - 12 noon
Thursday 18th June - Nursery, 9 am - 11:45 am

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children, staff and parents, we have introduced new measures in the playground and around the school. We would like you to read through the following paragraphs and would like to ask you to help us to adhere to the new rules.

1.Entering the school

To adhere to social distancing some school gates will only be used **to enter** and others **to exit.** Downsell Road, 'Globe' – entry only Corner of Downsell and Hall Road – exit only Brierley Road – both entry and exit. (Please listen to members of staff on duty when entering/exiting)

For Nursery, entrance and exit will be through Nursery Gates, please use the ramp to enter and the staircase to exit.

To promote social distancing, members of staff will be at every gate during morning opening times and at the end of the school day. Where possible, they will accompany children to their classrooms, please do not enter the school grounds unnecessarily. If possible, please leave your child at the school gate and they will be walked to the classroom by a member of staff.

2. Daily routine

Children will line up outside their classroom 2m apart, a member of staff will direct them to enter the classroom and wash their hands immediately. After this they will be directed to their tables.



















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For every 'bubble' the school day will start with assembly/PHSE in their own classroom. PHSE will focus on children's wellbeing and personal hygiene. After assembly, different aspects of the curriculum will take place.

3. Playtimes and lunchtimes

Children will wash their hands before and after play and, when they stay for lunch, before and after lunchtime. In addition to this, we have purchased water stations which will be positioned in the playgrounds where children can wash their hands whilst outside.

Each bubble will be taken outside by an allocated member of staff and bubbles will not mix with each other. They will only use equipment that is assigned to their own bubble.

4. Children's clothing

We stated previously that children would need to wear school uniform. As we would like **children to change their clothes on a daily basis**, we have revised this and there is no expectation for children to wear uniforms. However, they need to wear plain, practical clothes (jogging bottoms, leggings, t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc), please do not let them wear party dresses or clothes with logos and inappropriate writings/pictures.

5. Cleaning of the school building

A cleaner has been appointed to regularly sanitize classes, toilets, door handles and communal areas throughout the day. In addition, equipment that children use in their bubbles will be steam-cleaned or sanitised before use.

All water fountains have been put out of use. Children are expected to bring their own water bottles, please can you mark it clearly with your child's name.

Year 6

Planning in Year 6 is focussed on transition to secondary school and how to prepare your child as they move to Year 7. We have arranged for a Junior Citizenship session on the 16th July with the local police and we are also developing plans to host Year 6 Sports day within the bubbles.

Information regarding Year 6 prom and graduation will follow in the next few months when the situation becomes safe.



















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If you have <u>not</u> told us that you would like your child to attend school, you must give us 48 hours' notice. Please do not turn up with your child as we won't be able to start them on the day without careful planning. This is to ensure the safety of your child and others at school.

Once your child starts attending school they are expected to be in every day. If they are unwell, please report their absence the usual way (option 1 on the phone). It is very important that children come to school on time (please see the timing overleaf) to limit number of people meeting at the school gates.

As a school we are doing everything we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of every child and adult on the school grounds. Staff members are aware of the risk assessments with regards to social distancing and hygiene. The playground is marked with lines to help everyone to keep the required 2m distances and children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will be seated 2m apart in the classrooms. Teaching and learning will be focussed on social distancing and hygiene and children will be encouraged to adhere to the rules at all times.

We look forward to seeing all children back at school and helping them to continue with their education in these difficult times.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Chetty Headteacher













