



UPTON WESTLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL
WESTON GROVE
UPTON BY CHESTER
CH2 1QJ



Telephone: 01244 981215
www.uptonwestleapprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs K Carruthers

August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well and have enjoyed the Summer break?

Over the summer break we have been putting protective arrangements in place to ensure that our school environment is as safe as possible for everyone. We have followed the government's guidance for the full re-opening of schools in September, to minimise the threat of spreading the virus, whilst delivering a full curriculum for our children.

At the end of the summer term we distributed a letter to parents and carers outlining the plans that have been put in place for a September return for all. These plans have now been fine-tuned based on updated government guidance. Essential return information is detailed below. Clearly the initial return in September will stay under continuous review and will evolve during the academic year as government guidance changes.

Preventing the spread of the virus

The Department for Education has outlined protective measures that schools **must** implement to prevent the spread of the virus. There are five major steps we must take to prevent the spread of the virus. The NHS 'Test and Trace' system will be actively used and followed. Parents and pupils will be expected to cooperate **fully** to help us ensure these five major steps are implemented at all times.

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.

The main symptoms of Covid-19 are:

1. **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
2. **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
3. **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

To help us keep the school safe and open, please do **not** send your child into school if they are feeling ill and especially if they have even just one of the symptoms listed above. If pupils are poorly and show any of these symptoms, we will contact parents to come into school to collect their child from our Covid-19 isolation room. If in any doubt, please look after your child at home and contact school to inform us.

We encourage ALL parents whose child is presenting with Coronavirus symptoms to get their child tested and, where required, their family also. We kindly ask that you notify the school office as soon as possible with the results of any Coronavirus tests your child has undertaken before your child will be allowed back in school.





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Pupils who are self-isolating due to presenting with symptoms of Coronavirus, or who have been exposed to somebody presenting with symptoms of Coronavirus, must not attend school until the self isolation period has passed or they test negative for Coronavirus. If your child presents with Coronavirus symptoms, the self isolation period is 10 days: if a member of your household presents with Coronavirus symptoms, the self isolation period for your child is 14 days.

2. Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.

Handwashing facilities are available to each class bubble group. Additional handwashing products have been allocated to each class / workplace and will be used frequently.

A hand washing station has been purchased for outside Eden (for children entering the hall for lunch from the playground).

Designated times during the day will provide pupils opportunity to wash their hands (arrival and departure, before and after eating and after sneezing and coughing). Children will wash / sanitise their hands at the beginning and end of each transition & when entering / leaving the school building.

3. Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.

Please emphasise to your child the importance of using a tissue for coughs and sneezes and the need to throw away used tissues. Tissue boxes will be available in every classroom and work area but parents can provide their child with a supply of tissues to be kept in their tray.

4. Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.

Additional cleaning will be done throughout the day with a focus on cleaning frequently touched surfaces.

5. Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.

Children will remain in their own class bubbles and will not mix with other 'bubbles' throughout the day. Social distancing will be implemented as much as possible within a primary school but cannot be 100% guaranteed.

As from September 2020 attendance is compulsory for all children. Non-attendance will from that date incur a fine if the threshold is met. School uniform should also now be worn unless your child is in Nursery where it is optional or it is a PE/Forest School day for your child.

From September, pupils will be grouped using whole-class groups until further notice. Groups will not be permitted to mix at this time including breaktimes and lunchtimes. We will continually review the effectiveness of these groupings and amend when / where necessary.

As from Wednesday 2nd September there will be a slightly staggered start to the beginning and end of the day.





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Nursery – 8.35am – 11.35am – entering and exiting via the staff car park and field. Nursery begins on **Monday 7th September**. (Meetings with new parents will take place between the 2nd and 4th September).

Reception (after their induction weeks) 8.45am – 3.00pm – entering and exiting via the staff car park and field.

Eden – 8.30am – 2.45pm – entering and exiting via the staff car park.

Year 1 – 8.30am – 2.45pm – entering by the Y1 side gate and exiting through the staff car park.

There is now a barrier dividing the main path up to the playground in half – please make sure you always walk on the left-hand side.

Year 2 – 8.30am – 2.45pm – walking along the left-hand side of the path and dropping the children at the Y2 door (staying behind the yellow line).

From September all KS2 children will walk through the large metal gates on their own and will line up on the playground (parents will not be able to come onto the playground) – staff will be there to show the children where to go.

Years 3 and 5 – 8.45am – 3.00pm

Years 4 and 6 – 8.30am – 2.45pm

Obviously parents will be allowed on the playground at the end of the day. Please make sure you socially distance and leave the premises as soon as you have picked your child up. If you have more than one child and they are finishing school at different times, we kindly ask parents to socially distance in the “caged” area and wait for your child(ren) there. Children **MUST** stay with you and are not to run around the playground.

It is extremely important that you keep to these times. The school gates will not be open before 8.30am.

Any child cycling to school will now need to lock their bike up on the Year 1 fence in the staff car park, near the disabled bays – bikes can no longer be taken into the Year 1 play area.

Other important information:

- Breakfast Club (8.00am) and After School Club will start up again in September but children will now have to be booked into Breakfast Club as well as ASC. From September After School Club will now finish at 5.30pm Mon-Thurs and 5.00pm on Fridays as a deep clean will be needed to make sure the environment is ready for the morning/following week – this will be reviewed after the first half term.





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- School Clubs will not take place during the Autumn Term.
- Nursery and Reception will continue to provide a healthy snack each day. Please pay £1.20 per week on a Monday. Please put any money in a named envelope.
- Morning snack for Years 1-6 will not be available to purchase from school until further notice. The children are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack (no crisps, chocolate or sweets) and a named water bottle. The fruit scheme is still running for EYFS and KS1 children so they will be offered fruit throughout the day.
- The school kitchen will be fully open from the start of the Autumn term. Free school meals will be provided as normal. Pupils will remain in their designated groups at lunchtime and will eat their lunch in the school hall. Infection control and social distancing measures will be enforced during lunchtime and we ask that pupils do not share food, utensils or cups at this time. From September we will be having 3 lunch settings running from 11.30am to 1.00pm. The lunchtime is extended to allow for cleaning between sessions.
- On P.E. days and Forest School days the children are to come in clothes suitable for P.E./Forest School activities i.e. no uniform on those days. (Class teachers will inform you of these days in September).
- Children attending Forest School are requested to pay £2.00 per half term for Forest School snack.
- Reading books will be sent home but on return the books will be quarantined for 5 days and wiped down with anti-bacterial wipes. Your class teacher will let you know when books are to be changed.
- We politely ask that the children bring limited items into school. The children can bring in a coat, lunch box, book bag and drinks bottle. No large rucksacks, additional bags or pencil cases. P.E. kits do not have to be brought into school as the children will be coming to school wearing the correct clothes for that day.
- No toys or teddies can be brought into school

Year 1 to 6 parents will be invited to attend a 'zoom' meeting led by their class teacher to find out more information about their child's class and procedures within that class. Class teachers will be sending you an invite within the first few days of the new term, we hope you can attend. Class teachers will be sharing a short power point which will be put on our school website after the meeting if you are unable to attend.

Visitors to school

Visitors including parents will not be permitted to enter the school building for at least the first term of this year.





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If you wish to speak to your child's teacher please email admin@uptonwestlea.cheshire.sch.uk and your details will be passed on or message them directly via class dojo.

I would like to thank you for your continued hard work and co-operation during the Coronavirus pandemic. We are committed to supporting you and your child as they transition back into the school routine in September.

Should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we will be happy to discuss these with you.

Kind Regards

Mrs K Carruthers

Mrs K Carruthers
Headteacher

