



WISE
ACADEMIES
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23rd March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers / Families,

I am writing to give you a further update about the arrangements for the next few weeks when your child is in school.

I would first like to reiterate the clear message from the government:

You should only send your child to school if you have to, because your work is critical to our COVID-19 response. If you are able to keep your child at home, you should. #StayHomeSaveLives.

This is important to stop the spread of the virus and also protect our staff and other children who are in school. It seems unfair of me to ask staff to come to work and send their own children to school, to look after children whose parents [one or both] are at home. Please be responsible and let us know as soon as possible if your circumstances change or you believe you fall into this category.

We have adequate staffing in place to ensure the safety of both children and staff who are attending school. Some staff will be working from home on specific days to minimise their social contact. There will always be someone in the school office so that you can contact school and we will be picking up emails on a daily basis.

The drop off and pick up arrangements are as follows:

All children should be dropped off and collected at the top door where morning nursery leave and afternoon 2 year olds are dropped off. You will need to use the right hand side pedestrian gate to access this path and door. Please be respectful of others and keep 2m apart when you are in this space together to stop the spread of the virus.

School will only operate between 8.50am and 3.15pm - there will be no breakfast and afterschool clubs. This again is to reduce the social contact of the staff we have in school. I have spoken to individual families about this today and would urge you to contact me if this is critical to the government's COVID-19 response.

Flexibility:

We are aware that key workers do not work every day and where possible you should keep your child at home when you are off work. Please let us know as soon as possible when your child will not be attending school. If you know your current working pattern, please inform us of this so we can forward plan. If you are sent home from work or only work half days, we will be flexible around this too - please call the office and let us know if you wish to collect your child.

Uniform:

Children are having a relaxed curriculum and therefore it may be more appropriate for them to come to school in trainers and sportswear. If parents would find it easier to send the children in uniform, this is also fine.

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Lunches:

We are operating a reduced menu at the minute. The likelihood is that we will move to packed lunches as the weeks go on. If you usually pay for school meals, these will be free of charge until school returns as normal.

Water bottle:

It is really important for pupils to be drinking more often at the moment - please send your child to school with a water bottle each day which they can refill in school.

Cleaning:

The children are being taught in one area of the school and this will be thoroughly cleaned each night, as well as the toilet and communal areas.

Coronavirus / illness:

If you or any member of your family have Coronavirus symptoms, it is vitally important the whole family to self isolate for 14 days. Please also let us know if your child will be absent from school due to any other illness.

I would also like to publicly say a huge thank you to our amazing staff team, who will continue to support the children of key workers over the coming weeks. They have worked tirelessly to pull together information for all children and are committed to supporting necessary workers and play an important role in these challenging times. They are putting others before themselves and their families and for this we are extremely grateful.

I am sure you, like me, are looking forward to the time when school can reopen and life returns to normal, whenever that may be.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Natalie Fountain

