



Willerby Carr Lane Primary School

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Dear Parents/ Carers

Review of week 2

I hope you don't mind me writing to you each week at the moment, but I am conscious that we are operating in an uncertain and fast moving world and that we are all learning as we go along.

The 2nd week at school has again gone extremely smoothly and I would like to thank children, parents and staff for all working together to achieve this. Children are smiling and learning is re-established. I've managed to run separate assemblies for each year group from Year 1 to Year 6 (EYFS will be included once they have settled in after half term). Teachers are busy teaching and assessing where there are any gaps to fill as they go along. The full curriculum is being taught (bar singing, which is still advised against) whilst extra opportunities are being built in to revise and consolidate basic skills in reading, writing and maths that might have been impacted by the lockdown.

The new longer 1 hour lunchtimes are now in operation after re-jigging our bubble rotas, playtime rotas, lunchtime supervision rotas and staggered timings! It's important to us that your children get a good opportunity to exercise and have an unhurried time to eat.

Next week there are welcome meetings for all parents. These will be on Zoom and the joining codes issued soon by your classteacher. All meetings will take place at 6pm prompt as follows:

Welcome Meetings (6pm)	
Monday 21st September	Year 6
Tuesday 22nd September	Year 2
Wednesday 23rd September	Year 3
Thursday 24th September	Year 4
Monday 28th September	Year 5
Tuesday 29th September	Year 1
Wednesday 30th September	EYFS

Hopefully, at some time in the future, we will switch to holding these via Google Meet which you will be able to access via your Google Classroom Account. However, at the moment, Google Meet does not have the required security and operational controls in place (Google are developing these currently).

These meetings are a really useful opportunity to listen to your child's class teacher, to find out about what your child will be learning through the year, and to ask questions. So please do join your meeting.

The coronavirus is forcing us all to operate in different ways; some of them might actually be better. It may be that, even when the world returns to normal, we continue with some aspects that prove useful and popular, such as the ease and convenience for parents of online meetings.

We have had over 35 children kept at home by parents and some sent home by school in the past two weeks. This is because they have shown symptoms of coronavirus. We operate according to the advice provided by the DFE / NHS:

The medical advice is clear: you must self-isolate if you have coronavirus symptoms or live in the same household as somebody who does. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- *high temperature*
- *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)*
- *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*

If you have one or more of these symptoms, you must self-isolate straight away for 10 days – or longer if you still have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste.

If you live in the same household as someone with coronavirus symptoms, you must self-isolate straight away for 14 days.

Please note, if your child simply has a sore throat, a cough that is not continuous as described above, or a sniffly/ runny nose, then they do not need to self-isolate. They may of course need a day off to get better but if they do not have a high temperature or a continuous cough, then they can return once they feel well.

On the other hand, if they have had a high temperature or continuous cough, then they can't return simply because they feel better after a few days. They must follow the advice above.

We realise that having to self-isolate is really frustrating and inconvenient, but it is the only way to keep your children and our community safe.

Up until now, we have been sending texts out to let parents know that a child is self-isolating in a particular year group. However, with such a large number of children being kept at home with symptoms, which are most likely to be colds/flu germs, and with this number likely to increase as we head towards winter, it is serving no useful purpose. It is just raising anxiety levels unnecessarily. And since we do not have the capacity to then provide any useful update for all these pupils it is not useful information for parents. We shall therefore stop sending these routine texts. Of course, if we have any identified positive case, we shall let all parents know as a priority.

Nearly all parents have now signed up to their Google Account. This is really helpful. If your child does need to self-isolate or your Year Group bubble does end up getting sent home, it means you are ready to engage with the learning provided from the next day. If you are still not signed up, please contact the office and we will re-issue your password.

Many thanks for you highly valued support and team work. Enjoy your welcome meetings next week.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sean Smith
Headteacher