



Willerby Carr Lane Primary School

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Dear Parents/ Carers

School Wider Reopening Update

I want to update you on where we are with regards to planning for reopening.

Last night the Governing Body met and approved our plans for a **phased reopening of the school to EYFS and to Year 1 pupils from the week commencing 8 June, at the earliest**. Children of critical keyworkers, and vulnerable children who are already eligible, will continue to be offered a place.

We have looked at numerous options for wider opening of school to further year groups, but we DO NOT see how this would be possible at the current time. We do not have the staff capacity nor the physical space to do this. In all our planning, the safety of children and staff is our utmost priority.

In line with Local Authority recommendations, we have planned a phased approach to inviting back groups of pupils.

- in week 1, we will invite back EYFS
- in week 2, we will invite back Year 1 as well

Progression to each stage is conditional upon the school having the capacity and ability to implement it safely for pupils and staff.

The East Riding recommended phased approach introduces younger children first. This is because the scientific guidance cited by the government indicates that infant age children are less likely to become infected and also less likely to transmit infection if they do become infected. We recognise that children in our EYFS and Year 1 stand to benefit greatly in their academic skills (concentrating on basics of phonics, number, handwriting) as well as their early social skills development, if we can get them back into school before the summer and so avoid them missing 6 months of education. We do not recognise the same is true for Year 6. There will be few, if any, opportunities for transition preparation that cannot be replicated online – Wolfreton staff will not be allowed to visit us, as would normally happen, and we are not allowed to visit them.

Reopening date

The earliest we will open is:

- June 8th for EYFS
- June 15th for Year 1

These dates are not confirmed as yet. We are currently consulting with staff and unions and will confirm a start date after those discussions. I apologise that we cannot give you a definite timescale as yet – with it being ‘half-term’ the union staff are on holiday and unable to engage until next week. I will update you as soon as I can next week.

Operational plan

Detailed plans of our re-opening are attached. The operational plans are based on the following:

- School will be open full-time for pupils in the groups invited back. (We did look carefully at making a part-time offer to try to invite more children back, but that would have necessitated cross-contaminating the bubbles, which was advised against).
- School will be closed on Friday afternoon to allow a deeper clean
- Children will be allocated into bubbles of up to 15 children
- Each bubble will have specific staff allocated to them, including over lunch-time – not necessarily their class teacher
- Each bubble will be restricted, as far as possible, in contact with any other staff
- Each bubble will have a staggered start and end time for drop off and collection
- There are 4 designated drop off and collection points
 - 2 lining up points on the field
 - 1 lining up point on the Year 5/6 playground accessed via Ashgate
 - 1 drop off/ collection point at Bellfield gate.
- Children must be dropped off and collected at the point they are allocated to and at the correct time (see staggered operating plan attached)
- Children should bring nothing other than their coat and lunch to school
- Children will not be able to go home for lunch – we do not have staff to manage this
- Lunch will be either a packed lunch brought from home or a school 'grab-bag' lunch.
- Lunch will be eaten in the class
- No parents will be allowed on any other part of the site. Communication will be via telephone/ email.
- Classrooms have been arranged to allow social distancing of tables – these are typically 1.75m apart with rows spaced by 1.3m. Each child will be allocated a fixed desk.
- Children will have staggered playtimes/ toilet breaks and different playgrounds
- We make no pretence that young children will not come into contact with other children, but we have a wide range of measures to reduce the likelihood of that occurring and the risk of transmission overall.
- Cleaners will be cleaning at lunchtime as well as the end of the day.

Our first priority when we return, will be to help children build back their socialisation, communication and self-confidence. We will then be planning to go back to cover learning objectives that have been missed. Children in EYFS and Year 1 will recommence a curriculum which picks up with where we left off in March. There will be a slightly increased emphasis on phonics, maths and handwriting whilst also trying to cover other areas of the curriculum. We will also aim to maximise the use of our outdoors environment where possible.

Google Classrooms will remain operational for Year groups 2 to 6, although the teacher in charge of each group may change since staff cannot be in school and online at the same time. (See attached bubble plan for details of which staff will be online). Unfortunately, we simply do not have spare staff capacity to keep the EYFS and Year 1 online classrooms going whilst at the same time opening up to those children to return to school.

Parents are still being given the choice by the government about whether to take up any offer to return to school. We appreciate this is a very difficult decision for you to make. If you decide you are not yet ready to take up the offer from the first day, you will still be at liberty to take it up at a later date.

The re-organisation and setting up of the physical school site is now nearly complete. Classrooms have been reorganised for social distancing. Excess furniture has been removed to the Key Stage 1 Hall to maximise space. Soft fabric and small items that can't be cleaned easily have been removed. Hand sanitisers, lidded pedal bins with double bagging, PPE etc are all in place. Final signage should be in place in the next couple of days.

You can see how our school currently looks, at: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmNsxnPZ>

Each photo is labelled.



[Physical site organisation for socially distanced operation](https://flic.kr/s/aHsmNsxnPZ)

Explore this photo album by WCLPS on Flickr!
flic.kr

For further details of our operational plans, please find attached:

- Bubble Organisation KW EYFS Y1
- Staggered Operation of the School
- Risk Assessment
- Modified Behaviour and Discipline Policy

There is a lot of detail in these documents. I am providing them to you, to be as open and transparent as possible about the measures we will be taking in school to protect you and your children. There is no expectation that you read them all.

Further planned communications

Next week I shall

- make a video of the site so you get a better feel what it looks like
- send out actual bubble allocations. Please note: we do not have scope to allocate children based on friendships/ requests etc, so please do not ask
- send out any amended risk assessments or plans
- send out a guide for starting, once we reopen
- confirm the actual reopening date as soon as we can get it authorised

Many thanks for your valued support

Keep Safe

Mr Smith
Headteacher