



**Northwood Broom Academy**  
**ESPRIT Multi Academy Trust**  
Keelings Road, Northwood, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 6QA  
Telephone: 01782 234379 Email: [northwoodbroom@espritmat.org](mailto:northwoodbroom@espritmat.org)  
Executive Principal & Safeguarding Officer: Mrs S Moran  
Principal & Designated Child Protection Officer: Mrs Y Glaister



*“Every child deserves to be the best they can be”*

Our ref: YG.GA

5<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to let you know how proud I am of how the children have settled back into the school routines. They have used their ‘Goofy gumption’ to adapt to the strange situation that they have found themselves in amazingly. They are all displaying super ‘MAGIC’ learning attitudes and have adapted to the changes in school really well. I am also ‘wowed’ by how our nursery children have settled in the nursery and their routines, without their parents and carers. Many of the nursery children are even leaving their adult at the gate – what big boys and girls!

Thank you for being so patient with the processes we have put into place to support us in adhering to the government guidelines during the morning drop off and afternoon collections. This is helping us to ensure the transitions to and from school run smoothly, are as swift as possible, ensure no bubbles cross, and everyone is safe. I would just like to take this opportunity to remind you about not arriving before your allocated drop off time, to help keep congestion to a minimum and support social distancing (I am aware that if you have more than one child, arriving early cannot be avoided). With the raising numbers of COVID cases being reported now each day, and the rule of six being introduced, it is really important that we wear face masks (covering nose and mouth) to help prevent the spread of COVID further during drop off and collection. Please be mindful of our neighbours who live in the surrounding areas whilst you are waiting to drop off and collect your child and observe parking restrictions in the area.

All of the processes we have put in place to ensure that all of our children and yourselves stay safe, are outlined in our parent handbook, which can be found on the academy website. We are continually reviewing our risk assessments for the academy to ensure the safety of all and to help mitigate against any risks of spreading Covid. We welcome your feedback to support us with this and the measures we put in place to ensure we are following government guidelines and are reducing the risk of Covid transmission. Each time the parent handbook is updated, we will communicate this to you via class dojo, therefore, if you have not signed up to class dojo, please do so, as this is the main route of communication with your child’s class teacher and with the school.

I would like to further explain the new timings for the school day, as a few parents have enquired about the reduced time of the school day and are concerned how their child/children are going to ‘catch up’ if the day is shorter. Due to the government guidelines asking schools to ensure they plan a staggered entry time and collection time to ensure groups are kept apart (bubbles) and to be mindful to avoid busy rush hours, where possible, whilst keeping teaching time the same, we have reviewed our school day times. I would like to reassure you that the teaching time has not been reduced for the children. The transition time in a morning has been reduced from 25 minutes in a morning to only 5 minutes and teachers now only have 30 minutes for their lunchtime instead of 1 hour.



**PLEASE UPDATE THE ACADEMY OFFICE IF YOUR CONTACT DETAILS CHANGE**



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All of the transition times throughout the day have been reduced, ensuring that there is no lost learning time. One example is whole school assemblies, which cannot take place in the hall due to bubbles mixing. Therefore, we are now holding assemblies in the classrooms and the time that the children spent tidying away the classroom, entering and leaving the hall has now disappeared. This means that each day, 15 minutes more is gained.

In line with the government recommendation that children have 30 minutes of exercise each day to improve their fitness, teachers are now teaching 30 minutes of structured PE each day, which takes place outside when the weather permits.

Unfortunately, we were not successful in securing the lottery bid we were hoping to, that we were going to use towards developing our school playground. We will be working closely with the school council to plan fund raising events throughout the school year to fund this ourselves. We need to raise approximately £10,000 to support us with this project. Therefore, your contributions are very much needed and appreciated through your weekly school fund donations, which should be paid via ParentPay, please, and fundraising events we hold. Any ideas for fund raising will be gratefully received!

Lastly, I would like to reassure you that we will still be celebrating events such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter, but these will look different from the ‘norm’ you are used to. We are working on planning how we can carry out/capture these events in a virtual/digital way, so you can still enjoy seeing your child/ren in the ‘MAGiCal’ events we usually host.

As always, thank you for your continued support. It is very much appreciated, especially in these current, difficult times.

Yours faithfully,

*Y. Glaister*

Mrs Glaister  
Academy Principal



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