



Wallace Fields Junior School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We are excited and pleased that all children are returning to school this September. The atmosphere is very positive and keen here in school and we are glad that the children will be seeing their friends again. This socialisation is a key part of school that the children will hopefully be looking forward to. We are also keen for them to start back into a school routine that will be a relief and a sense of normality we have craved since March.

Clear Information

Things have been very busy here at school, getting ready for the return of all the children and this information is a reminder of the plans for the return of the children. Much of it is similar although some details have been improved and added. You will need to familiarise yourself with the new routines to help your child understand what will be happening next week.

Safeguarding

Thank you to those who responded to the questionnaire on covid wellbeing.

If you have particular safeguarding concerns regarding your child, please contact your child's teacher in September and we will endeavour to discuss them with you and judge if we need additional measures to those we have planned in for their first few weeks at school.

Parent Support Toolkit: There is a very good webpage on the BBC Bitesize site, this covers many aspects of the things families have faced during lockdown and lots of helpful advice. The link is: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/znsmyxc>. The advice includes helping your child as they return to school, including noticing the impact of our feelings, managing your child's worries, embracing change, and building routines again. These articles are aimed at parents not children and so be aware when watching some of the videos included.

Latest Guidelines:

The new government guidance for the full opening of schools in September is here -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

There is also a compacted summary of the guidance as relevant to Wallace Fields Juniors on the website that has been adapted to create a risk assessment and lists many of the intended plans and considerations that we have to implement to meet the guidance requirements. For 'Guidance for Full Opening' the page link is:



<https://www.wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/our-school/covid-procedures>

Pupils will be kept in year group bubbles throughout the school day and we have made some changes to the normal procedures in school. Pupils within their year group bubbles are not expected to socially distance from each other however, they are still required to socially distance from all staff where possible (and staff distance from each other). There will be additional cleaning in place to ensure that high standards of hygiene are evident.

All children will be expected to come back in full school uniform and can resume to their normal bags and PE kits. PE and games procedures are being adapted to improve changing arrangements in the upper school Year 5 & 6. This was a priority from earlier this year.

In order to keep all pupils and staff safe there are some changes that will need to remain in place along with some new procedures;

- Assemblies will be in class or years groups only and usually outside or in class.
- Parents are not to come on site. Drop off is via staggered starts at the front gate only. Staggered collections are also by the front gate only.
- No parents to enter the school office - any meetings required need to be by appointment only and will usually be a phone call in place of a face to face meeting.
- Parents are expected to adhere to year group bubbles when travelling to and from school and to support the school in the message of social distancing from adults.
- If your child is walking or cycling to and from school independently, they must follow the above guidance and not mix with children from outside their year group bubble. Usual permissions and rules apply.

Starting Back to School:

Tuesday 1st September is an INSET day. This is the whole school review our school development plan (SDP), our English and maths initiatives and to update all staff on the policies and procedures and undergo training for professional development.

Wednesday 2nd September 2020 is a School Preparation Day – This is a day for organising the school in practical and procedural terms for the return of the children including tables, chairs, storage, stock, signage, barriers and new processes for covid and school safety. First aid, safeguarding and anti-covid training will be included. This is in line with Wallace Fields Infant School who are also preparing their school on this day.

Thursday 3rd September 2020 All children return to school. There will be no phased returns and systems will be adapted over time according to their effectiveness. See the staggered start and end times listed.

Below is an outline of some of the arrangements that will be put into place in school for when your child restarts in order to keep the bubbles apart;

Beginning and end of school day

Drop off is via staggered starts at the front gate only. Please be on time, do not arrive early or late as this negates the point of staggered starts. Each year group will have approximately 5 minutes to come into school. Be on time to collect. Parents should maintain social distancing outside school. There will be clear stopping points set out at the front of the school. The group due first will meet at **Point 1**, those arriving for school next can group at **Point 2**. As each group moves forward into school, the next group will move forward to the next meeting point.

If any Year 5 or 6 intend to walk home alone from school, they will need written permission from a parent/carer. No child can be dropped off early or arrive late for their year group's entry into school. Duty of care remains with the parents until they enter the front gate.



Year Group / Bubble	Start Time	Finish
Year 3	8.40am - 8.45am	3.00pm
Year 4	8.50am – 8.55am	3.10pm
Year 5	9.00am - 9.05am	3.20pm
Year 6	9.10am - 9.15am	3.30pm
All times are subject to review and change, you will be informed of any changes via email.		

In cases where you have two children, you will not be able to drop both children off at the same time and the later child will need to join the line at the relevant time. Where you have children in different year groups, you will need to wait outside school at a reasonable distance from the front gate (to prevent obstructing the flow of children) until the later child is due out. A child late for their entry slot into school may need to wait until all other groups are in school before they are admitted. They will be marked as late in the register.

Where there is a clash of times with a possible infant child collection, please contact your child's class teacher and collection can be planned. If you do not hear from the teacher, please send a reminder email or contact the main office.

To avoid congestion and danger to the children (with increased numbers outside school at one time), please walk to school and avoid driving if at all possible.

There may be some delay on the first day back as we need to give additional time to the new Year 3 as they learn the new junior routines and expectations. Please be patient.

On departure, all parents and carers should cross over and walk away from school on the opposite side of the road to avoid contact with other bubbles/groups.

Hand Washing

Pupils will be expected to wash their hands on entering the school building and to wash their hands/ sanitise their hands at regular points throughout the school day. All staff and professionals will also be expected to use hand sanitiser on entry and exit.

School Meals/Lunchtimes

The routine for lunches has changed in order to allow for going into lunch and having a lunch break whilst keeping groups apart. Meals will be hot meals for a trial period and may be reverted to cold lunches if unsuccessful. Packed lunches carry on as usual and follow the year group timings set in school.

Playtimes and Breaks

The children will have allocated zones to play in that prevent the crossing over of groups and normal play is permitted. Play equipment will be allocated per zone, for the use of that year only and then cleaned at the end of each break. The activity centre is not in use for the time being.

Curriculum

Our key goal is to establish school routines as soon as possible. You may have heard of the 'Recovery Curriculum' – this is simply a set of approaches to help support children returning, to build up their confidence in school and to help them get into the routines again. We have also increased our pastoral input to include the pupil's return to school and we have analysed the parent feedback to plan a suitable recovery curriculum taking your responses into account.

We are planning a 'catch up curriculum' which will focus on maths, English and wellbeing as advised. A broad and balanced curriculum will remain in place though some subjects may be reduced slightly whilst we catch up on the core curriculum. Some core subjects will be achieved



through cross curricular tasks. More details will be sent out to you as they are drawn up. Any new guidance sent out by the DfE will be assimilated into the school routine as necessary.

All tables will face the front of the classroom. All trays and equipment is not to be shared between children so pupils will need to have everything ready in their pencil cases (Year 4, 5 and 6). Bags are permitted but these should be as small as possible. As usual avoid large and oversized pencil cases as this restricts room on the table for working and creates unhelpful distraction.

The teachers will be carefully formatively assessing all the children to find out where they are with regard to maths and English on return. Formal written tests will be avoided as much as possible though some concept areas will require formal testing. We have an assessment week each term so this should not be any more taxing or unusual for most pupils. It will also be good practice for the new Year 3.

Breakfast Club and After School Care

The school's provision for breakfast club and after school care is organised by **Club Vale**. There number is **07905 394 029** and they can also be contact via a link on the website. The link is:

<https://www.wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/parents/wrap-around>

Please contact them directly, especially if you are a new Year 3 parent who is interested in taking up wraparound care that is smoothly transitioned from club to school and then school back to the club. Instructions for arrival, collection, payment and pick up will be sent to you directly from Club Vale. For any enquiries contact Club vale. Please do not contact the school office admin team regarding enquiries for Club Vale.

Extra-Curricular activities

Clubs have been postponed for autumn term 1 (up until half term) at which point they will be reviewed in light of guidance and how things have been. You will be updated as provision changes and hopefully expands.

Attendance and absence

All school age children registered at Wallace Fields Juniors are expected to return to school from 3rd September 2020 and expectations are now reinstated including the school's responsibility to record and follow up absences with the option to impose sanctions for non-attendance including the issue of fixed penalty fines (FPNs) in accordance with Surrey County Council's guidelines.

Updates:

The government intends to send out weekly guidelines. We will endeavour to keep you up to date but without inundating you with long detailed emails.

The Year 6 block has been fully refurbished and the Year 6 children will be starting up in these new classrooms. They are brighter, neater, with new lighting, flooring, more space, new blinds, modern heating and a bigger and more useful group room available for school support teaching and specific targeted group/individual learning.

At the time of sending, the government guidelines did not include the wearing of masks by junior aged pupils and as long as this is the recommendation, this will continue to be the case across the school.

Whilst I remain aware of the fact that the covid virus could increase, resulting in school closure and possibly local area lockdown, we will work on a basis of normal school as much as possible and inform you of details regarding closure if it is imposed by PHE.

I would like to thank all parents for your amazing support over the past few months, for remaining so resilient, adaptable and positive and helping making your child's transition back to school and smooth and enthusiastic one.



We look forward to seeing you and, even more importantly, the children, on Thursday 3rd September 2020.

Kind Regards

Mr S Lee
HEADTEACHER

