

# Warmley Park School and College

*Aspire, Believe, Enhance, Achieve*

Newsletter No: 22 – 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020



This is quite a long newsletter but we felt that it was important that you are aware of the plans for September.

We have taken into consideration the Government and South Gloucestershire Re-opening Frameworks for Schools that were both published last week. In these documents there was a focus on the safe return to school.

The Government highlighted:

*The prevalence of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased and our NHS Test and Trace system is up and running, and we are clear about the measures that need to be in place to create safer environments within education settings.*

*The risk to children and young people themselves of becoming severely ill from coronavirus (COVID-19) is very low and there are negative health impacts of being out of school or college. While coronavirus (COVID-19) remains in the community, this means making judgements at a setting level about how to balance and minimise any risks from coronavirus (COVID-19) with providing a full educational experience for children and young people.*

South Gloucestershire Council have stated:

*Our Local Authority priority is for a return that places at its heart the relationship between the adult and our children and young people (CYP). It is about reconnecting safely through a compassionate and ethical approach.*

*The September reopening is based on minimising contact.*

Warmley Park Governors have debated the reopening plans and agreed a plan that encompasses the requirements of the South Gloucestershire framework, which we believe will support the transition from lockdown to the reopening of school. To build the confidence of pupils, parents, and staff, we are intending to deliver a phased reopening with increasing numbers of pupils attending at any one time over a 4 week period, in line with the South Gloucestershire guidance. This will give pupils time and space to adjust to the new arrangements.

Reflection on what we have learnt from a limited and partial reopening-

- Well planned small groups work effectively and help keep pupils calm and safe.
- Bubble arrangement is positive and has been clear.
- It is difficult to socially distance from our pupils for various reasons, but the use of bubbles, small numbers and PPE has been effective.
- Limiting the resources available has helped cleaning.

- Use of outdoor learning facilitates social distancing.
- The packed lunches provided by the school kitchen and eaten in classrooms have been well received.
- Clear definition of roles including for health and safety and hygiene.
- Clear definition of what to do if there is a suspected case- this has been tested.
- Phased arrival and drop off is working and enables pupils to have their temperature taken and wash their hands before fully entering the building.



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week beginning 31.8.20	Bank holiday	In-service training days- school closed to all pupils		WPSC open for up to 50% of pupils *	
Week beginning 7.9.20	WPSC open at half class capacity * New College Students begin their transition to WPSC		School closed for deep cleaning and planning for pupils who are not in*	WPSC open at half class capacity *	
Week beginning 14.9.20	WPSC open at half class capacity * New pupils begin their transition to WPSC		School closed for deep cleaning *	WPSC open at half class capacity * New pupils begin their transition to WPSC	
Week beginning 21.9.20	WPSC open at half class capacity *		WPSC open for all pupils	WPSC open at half class capacity *	
Week beginning 28.9.20	All pupils in full time.				

\*children of key workers who require a place will be able to access one as required.

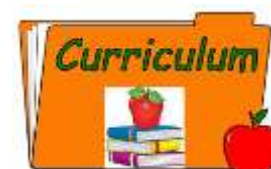
You will be informed individually of the days that your child will be attending school/college.

We are intending to use the class groups that pupils will be in for the rest of the year, rather than settle them and then change this later on in the term. We feel that there needs to be as few changes as possible once pupils return. This includes the room they are in and the staffing.

Why are we going from 2 days to 3 days to full time rather than have 4 days? Because South Gloucestershire want us to have all pupils back in by the week beginning 28.9.20 and having carefully considered it, we feel that this is realistic. Governors completely understand that some pupils may need a personalised approach to returning to school and any requests from parents to keep their child at home or extend the period of return because of health needs, or individual circumstances will be considered. Parents will need to put this in writing to me and I am very happy to look at this in how we can work together to support your child.

## The Recovery Curriculum

We have been planning a Recovery Curriculum based on the rationale proposed by Professor Barry Carpenter. Along with the other special schools in South Gloucestershire we are developing a programme of learning that will support the reconnection of relationships that were disrupted by the pandemic.

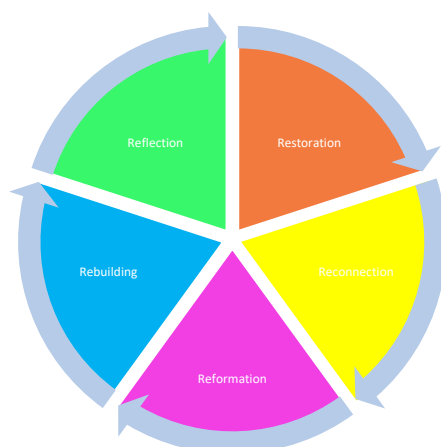


When pupils return to school in September, they will see displays showing photos of the amazing home learning that has been taking place. We have used the photos that you have been uploading to Seesaw.

We know that some pupils will find it difficult to readjust to coming back to school and the phased return model means that we can operate for a few weeks, with fewer pupils each day with a high staffing ratio as all staff will be back to work. This, along with the Recovery Curriculum, will help pupils to settle in and reform their relationships with staff and peers. This has been agreed with South Gloucestershire.

The Recovery Curriculum acknowledges that there have been big losses to children as they have stayed at home and that these losses can contribute to their mental health with anxiety, trauma and bereavement playing a large role. Children may have been exposed to others around them who are anxious and not maintaining their normal routines, or they may have seen or heard the news. We acknowledge that children will have had different experiences during this time.

However, the common thread running through all is the loss of routine, structure, friendship, opportunity and freedom. These losses can trigger anxiety in any child. We know that an anxious child is not in a place to learn effectively. This is why the themes of the Recovery Curriculum are important to reconnect with school and learning.



### Reflection – What has happened?

- How do we feel about what has happened in the last few months?
- Changes to school- pupils, staff, building.
- Personal changes including growth, new skills, any key events that have taken place such as birthdays, any events or opportunities that were lost.
- Responding to questions, what was school like, what is it like now?
- Thank you to the NHS.
- Thank you to our families for keeping us safe.
- News during the period of lockdown- Black Lives Matter, the economy.





#### Restoration- building confidence:

- Understanding routines.
- Self-regulation.
- Timelines- past and future events.
- Animation and drama around worries.

#### Reconnection- making relationships:

- Me and my circle of important people.
- Team games, team problem solving, know which adults help.
- Awareness of emotions.
- Nature and our world including tree planting.
- Collaborative arts.

#### Reformation- the school community:

- Supported by visuals, understanding what is different about school and how to navigate this environment.
- Developing clear routines again.
- Hand washing and hygiene measures.
- Adapting to using areas of the school that may not be usual and being in environment and with staff that are not usual.
- Keeping and maintaining social distancing from others outside of their bubble.
- Having greater freedom- being able to enjoy outdoor spaces.
- Photography of the school and the people in the school community.
- Celebration assemblies of what we are doing in week in school via Teams.
- the school family tree

#### Rebuilding- engagement with learning

- Stories as a basis for further activities and learning.
- Creativity- collaborative art, the theory of Kintsugi.
- Communication opportunities through drama.

Teachers will plan and provide resources for those at home, linked to the themes of the Recovery Curriculum. We recognise that moving forward, children may require extended support as the country continues in this journey of recovery also. This recovery curriculum will be in place supporting the learning of all our pupils throughout this time. As a school, our priorities are in supporting our pupils with the return to school, and the health and safety of our community.

We will be able to carry out specific work if you would like us to around bereavement- please inform your child's class teacher and we will contact you to discuss the support we can offer.

**Class organisation - Currently we are operating a bubble system. This has worked well and minimised contact between groups of pupils. We are planning to extend this using the guidance frameworks as a reference. Pupils will stay within their class and avoid social mixing with pupils from other classes. The rationale for this is based on infection prevention and control measures.**

**Lunches - Pupils will have their lunches in their class- those who have school dinners will have a packed lunch provided by the school kitchen and delivered to their class. They will go outside to play with the other pupils from their class but within the bubble.**

Your child will have a specific entrance to the school or college which is just for those pupils in their bubble. This will be clearly marked out for them.

Arrival and departure of pupils and transport - We are working alongside the Integrated Transport Unit who provide home to school transport. We understand that some parents may wish to bring their child to school and we are of course, happy for you to do this. We will be asking you to hand your child over to a member of their bubble staff at their entrance, rather than taking them to their class. We know that you want to know that your child is settled back in school, but we are having to restrict the number of contacts we all have and your child's class teacher will be happy to phone you to let you know how they are getting on.

Cleaning and hygiene - This is already of a high standard. In view of the need to ensure high levels of hygiene are maintained, we will be putting in an additional cleaner to take the number to 4 who are present all day, with additional cleaning being undertaken every evening and a deep clean using fogging sanitiser being carried out on a Wednesday and Saturday. Over the longer time, we will be using the arrangement of the bubble system to facilitate the mid-week deep clean by joining together classes within their bubble.

PPE - At present staff are wearing masks all the time. They wear gloves, visors and aprons as well when carrying out personal care. It would be helpful, if your child has not been in school during the lockdown period, that you make them aware that staff are wearing masks so that they are not surprised to see this.

What happens if a pupil or member of staff becomes unwell during the school day? - If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature in an education or childcare setting, they must be sent home and advised to follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance. If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to the isolation room located in the therapy corridor.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus at school? - When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation. Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms. As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases a larger number of other children/young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.

All of our procedures will be reviewed as further information becomes available.

This will all be underpinned by an update of our risk assessment and guidance.

Thank you for all of the positive messages that we have received- we are looking forward to seeing everyone back in September. If you need to contact school over the summer holidays please email: [school@warmleyparkschool.org.uk](mailto:school@warmleyparkschool.org.uk) which is our admin email and will be checked periodically.

As always, stay safe.

