

SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2019

School reopens for students on **Tuesday 3 September 2019**, 8.25am for Y7 students and 9.45am for Y8 – Y11 students. Please keep checking the school's social media sites over the summer holiday period in case there are any changes that you need to be aware of.

OPEN EVENING – THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER 2019

If you are considering applying for a Year 7 place or know someone who is, our **Open Evening** for **Y5/Y6** students is **Thursday 3 October 2019 at 6.00pm**. Please come along, it is always a really great evening when we showcase all the brilliant teaching and learning that takes place at our wonderful school.

2019-20 PARENTS' EVENING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The important school dates are attached to this letter and are published on our website <https://www.westleighhigh.co.uk/termdates>. You will note that there are two opportunities for parents/carers to meet with staff throughout the year, namely **Parents' Evening** and **Form Tutor Evening** and an explanation of the purpose of these evenings is given below:-

Parents' Evening: This is the opportunity to meet with your son or daughter's subject teachers and to obtain a clear picture of how they are progressing against the targets set in that subject.

Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
17 Oct 2019 (1) 25 June 2020 (2)	27 Feb 2020	6 Feb 2020	12 March 2020	19 Sept 2019 (1) 23 Jan 2020 (2)

Form Tutor Evening: Y8 – Y11: 5 December 2019:

This is a great opportunity to meet with your son/daughter's form tutor to obtain a broad picture on how your child is developing as a member of our school community. Your child's form tutor develops a strong pastoral relationship over the course of their 5 years in school and this evening gives you the opportunity to meet to discuss their progress.

Your attendance at both evenings is essential to ensure that your son or daughter gains the most out of their education both academically and pastorally and we do request that you make a note of these important school events and attend them both.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF WESTLEIGH

We would like to extend a formal invitation for you to join our **Parents and Friends of Westleigh forum**. We meet one evening of each half term at school and take time to celebrate recent successes and consult with parents on new initiatives and plans for the school. We will bring agenda items to these meetings for discussion, but also invite parents and friends to table any ideas or concerns of their own in an open and honest discussion. We hope that in this way together we can enhance our students' journey on '*The Westleigh Way*'. The meetings start at 7.00pm in our Conference Room with refreshments provided.

We look forward to welcoming you and hearing your thoughts and ideas.

INTERNET SAFETY

Internet access is closely monitored in school but many students have access to unfiltered content through their mobile data. I would ask that parents/carers are regularly monitoring the apps that their children use to ensure that they are safe and appropriate, particularly over the long summer break from school. May we remind parents/carers that students are not permitted to use their mobile phone in school.

STAYING SAFE OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Please may we take this opportunity to ask parents and carers to remind children about staying safe over the summer holiday, especially on the roads and when out and about near water and other potential hazards such as railways and building sites.

More information can be found on the following websites:-

<https://www.rospa.com/leisure-safety/water/advice/children-young-people/>

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/>

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The new school uniform for new Y7 students is on the school website and all parents have been informed earlier in the year. Letters are on the school's website but for clarification:-

[For ALL students]

Boys' Uniform No change

Girls' Uniform Change of skirt to school grey check (**compulsory** from September 2019)

Change of colour of socks to grey (**compulsory** from 2019)

Ties: Students will keep their existing tie colour as they move up into the next Year, so there is no requirement to purchase a new tie.

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|-----------|--------|--------|--------|
| ▪ Year 11 | Purple | Year 8 | Maroon |
| ▪ Year 10 | Blue | Year 7 | Silver |
| ▪ Year 9 | Green | | |

Suppliers

All uniform must be purchased from our official suppliers in Leigh, which are:-

- A &H Rosenfelds / Jaymax / Bang Bang

There are no other changes to the school uniform and our very clear rules on uniform and appearance are on the school's website <https://www.westleighhigh.co.uk/parents/uniform>

FREE SCHOOL MEALS – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

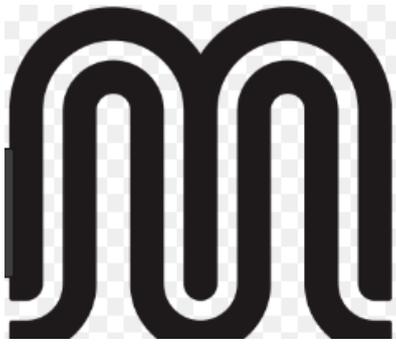
Many children in the UK are entitled to free school meals but often parents are not aware that they are eligible or they choose not to claim their entitlement. We would like to encourage parents and carers to apply for free school meals for their child for two reasons:-

- Your child can select a good quality, healthy lunch each school day;
- The school can claim Pupil Premium funding for every child receiving a free school meal entitlement. This additional funding helps us to provide a wider range of opportunities and learning experiences for your child.

You may be able to claim a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support / Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance / Income-related Employment and Support Allowance / Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they will remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they are in on 31 March 2022.



Transport for Greater Manchester

Dear all,

From the start of the 2019/2020 academic year, school bus fares will increase in line with inflation. We would be grateful if you could distribute this information to parents via your usual channels.

The changes:

Fare Type	Old (£)	New (£)
Child Single (IGO)	1.35	1.40
Child Single (no IGO)	1.75	1.80
Child return	2.30	2.40
Child Weekly	7.30	7.40
Adult Single	2.70	2.80

An IGO card costs £10 and lasts until 31st August after your 16th birthday. The card allows 11-16 year olds to travel using child tickets on buses and trams in Greater Manchester.

Please let me know if you require any information at this time.

Many thanks

Michael Hall
Service Planning Specialist (Technical Development)
Transport for Greater Manchester

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FESTIVAL SAFETY NOTICE



With the summer break fast approaching and many of our children spending time at summer camps, activity days and child care settings, we want you to feel confident to ask the appropriate questions of those you will be leaving your child/children with.

The DfE published draft guidance for parents, in the form of 'Safeguarding questions for parents and carers (DfE, 2018)'. These questions should help you in approaching the adults responsible for your child's care this summer leaving you confident that they are safe and catered for by appropriately trained adults. Some of the questions parents could ask include:

- Have staff and volunteers undertaken DBS checks? How recent were the checks?
- Will any adults besides the instructor be present at the venue while my child is there? If so, will they be there on a regular basis?
- What training have staff had?
- May I have a copy of your child protection policy?
- Who is your designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and what training have they had? How recent was this training?
- My child has Special Educational Needs and / or a disability (SEND). What steps will you take to accommodate this?
- My child needs help with: using the toilet; changing; feeding; their medication, etc. How will these personal care needs be addressed?
- How are you securely storing the information you hold on my child? Who has access to it and are you giving it to anyone else?
- Is my child allowed to access the internet unsupervised?
- Do you have filtering and monitoring systems in place? What are they?

In addition to the questions to ask, the draft guidance for parents sets out some 'red flags' that the might prompt parents to send their children to a 'different setting'. The red flags are:

- Staff are not DBS checked
- No child protection policy
- Signs of abuse on other children who attend the setting, for example, unexplained bruises
- Provider unable to name a designated safeguarding lead
- The designated safeguarding lead has not had relevant training
- If the OOSS allows children access to the internet, no filtering or monitoring systems in place
- Dangerous physical environment e.g. loose wires, damp, no fire escape, no first aid kit
- No designated first aider
- No parental consent form or requirement for emergency contact details
- Other adults coming into the out-of-school setting who are not staff members / a lack of clarity on the roles of different adults in the setting
- No health and safety policy
- No fire escape plan

You can access the full document here: https://consult.education.gov.uk/regulatory-framework-unit/out-of-school-settings-voluntary-safeguarding-code/supporting_documents/Safeguarding%20questions%20for%20parents%20and%20carersDraft%20guidance.pdf

Wishing you a lovely summer.

G Johnson
Assistant Headteacher/SENCo