

## Stanley School

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**Acting Head Teacher:** Holly Barker  
**Acting Deputy Head:** Ritu Hulme  
**Chair of Governors:** David Spencer  
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**School Nurse:** Karen Whitehead

26<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone is well and looking forward to our return to school next Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. It will be really lovely to get everyone back together in school at last!

As mentioned in my message on Sunday, the transport department have been working tirelessly over the holidays to try and find a way to provide transport to all children who are eligible. I have been in contact with them this week and they have managed to allocate spaces for all those who require it which is great news. You should have received a letter from them confirming this today, and if not it will be with you by the end of the week.

As they are working within the constraints of Government guidelines, it does mean that each vehicle will be making two trips to and from school at different times to safely transport all of the children on the vehicles. Times for this will be allocated by the transport team. We haven't had confirmation of the allocations sent to us yet but we will hopefully have this by the end of the week.

As you are aware, we have been waiting to have the arrangements from transport before confirming all the finer details of our plan for school from 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

It is quite a lot of information but I have condensed it as much as possible!

### **Starting and ending the day**

Children who arriving on LA transport will be arriving from 9am and collection will be from about 2.45 to allow for the double run required to transport all the children. During this time the vehicles will be coming into the usual drop off areas for the buses and taxis. Staff will collect and bring the children to/from the vehicles.

Parents who bring their children to school will be asked to park in the bays opposite school and the car park opposite school. There will be additional spaces allocated to ensure everyone can safely park. Parents can drop off from 9.00am to 9.15 and collect from 2.45 to 3.00. When you arrive on site staff will be waiting to collect the children from you. If there is not a member of staff visible please call the school office to let them know you have arrived. This is the same process at the end of the day.

Please do not congregate outside the main entrance or on the pathways as this needs to be clear to enable staff to see who has arrived and to safely support the children into school. Especially with the buses likely to be coming and going at various times in addition to Pensby Primary's parents and children walking to and from school.

In order to help with social distancing, we request that one adult accompanies each child to school. Please take care to maintain 2m between yourselves and any other adults and children coming to school. It is vitally important that you ensure that anyone else dropping off or collecting your child knows all about the times and arrangements in place.

Class teachers will be contacting you on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of September to discuss any specific individual support your child may need with transitions into school. We know for some children it has been a long time since being on the school site and we want to make their transition back into school as smooth as possible.

### **Class Bubbles**

Each class will operate as a “bubble” and will also be part of a wider “bubble” made up of up to 3 other classes. They will work, play and have lunch together and be socially distanced from other classes outside of their wider “bubble”. This is to allow for safe use of communal outside areas and for staff to support each other where needed.

### **Face Coverings**

It is not necessary, or currently advised for children under 12 to wear face coverings, however if they do so on their way to school, please help them to remove this safely before they enter the school premises.

### **Lunchtimes**

On our return in September, we will begin by limiting the menu choices for children for the first few weeks and children will be eating in classrooms, until restrictions are relaxed for more children to use the hall together if appropriate. I will keep you informed when this is the case.

### **Uniform**

We are asking that parents send their children in clean clothes each day. We know that some children associate uniforms with school and this is obviously the ideal. However, we do not want parents to feel any additional strain over either having 5 uniforms, or having to wash and dry each night, so there will be flexibility initially with children wearing their own clothes if needed.

### **Outdoor Education**

As well as playing outdoors, we will work outdoors as much as possible, as this is the best environment for reducing the spread of the virus. Children also love to be outdoors! Please bear this in mind when preparing your child for the day. They need to be warm and dry, so a jumper and a waterproof coat are essential.

### **Swimming and PE**

Classes will be able to access the swimming pool and PE sessions from their return to school. Class teachers will let you know what day they will be swimming and what day they will be doing PE once the timetables have been finalised.

### **Communication**

We know how important good communication between home and school is, and with additional measures in place this makes regular face to face contact more difficult. We would encourage parents to maintain regular contact with class staff via class dojo and if you need more time to talk request a telephone call or arrange a time to come into school to talk. This is to enable us to track visitors to school and schedule time to prevent there from being too many people in the entrance way to school.

### **Therapists**

NHS Speech and Language service, and Physiotherapy team have been in contact with school and will be resuming their visits to school from September. They have shared the measures they have in place to enable them to work with the children safely and will follow our procedures when on site.

### **Arrangements for if a child is unwell in school**

If a child becomes unwell in school they will be placed in a well ventilated isolation room, supervised by an adult in PPE. In the rare event of this occurring I imagine this could be very

distressing for a child, despite our best efforts to reassure them. This is why we need to be able to contact you immediately, so that an emergency contact can get to the school quickly in order to minimise any distress to your child. Please make sure you inform us of any change to contact details as soon as possible.

### **Other safety measures**

In addition to the above here are some of the things we will do in school to prevent the spread of Covid-19 as much as possible:

- Regular and frequent handwashing and use of hand sanitiser will be encouraged in school for pupils and staff.
- Extra cleaning will take place during each school day
- Any shared resources will be cleaned regularly.
- There will be no gatherings in the hall for assemblies or singing.
- The number of adults the children come into contact with will be limited.

### **What you can do in addition to the above:**

- If your child has symptoms of Covid-19 do not bring them to school. Your household must then follow the government guidance on isolating and getting a test.
- If your child is given a hospital or unavoidable dental appointment during the school day, please let us know as soon as possible so we are aware of arrangements for pick up/drop off.
- Your child and those with whom they live must follow government guidance on social distancing.

### **Attendance**

Attendance at school is compulsory from 2nd September. I know that you may be anxious about bringing your child to school after such a long period of time, especially if they have been shielding. However, I can assure you that those who have already returned have settled quickly and benefitted from the routine and structure that school provides. Your child will greatly benefit socially, emotionally and academically from returning to school.

If you have any specific concerns about your child returning to school, please speak with the class team in the first instance or contact myself or Ritu.

### **Testing**

On your child's return to school you will need to be ready and willing to:

- [book a test](#) if you or your child are displaying symptoms. Children must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5.
- provide details of anyone you or your child have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- [self-isolate](#) if you have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), or if anyone in your household develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus website](#), or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet. Essential workers, which includes anyone involved in education or childcare, have priority access to testing.

- if someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.
- if someone tests positive, they should follow the [‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection’](#) and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only

if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia (loss of smell/taste) can last for several weeks once the infection has gone.

The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

### **Learning**

When the children return the teachers will be able to get on with what they do best; building relationships with the children, keeping them safe, assessing where their learning is up to and planning to move them onto the next stage of learning. Whether you have done lots of school activities in lockdown with your children, or none, we will be able to meet the children where they are, and support them to move on. We look forward to working together and supporting each other through the next stage.

### **School Tour on the website**

Hopefully you have already had the opportunity to look at the virtual tour of school on the website. It may be a useful way for some parents to start talking about school in preparation for the return next week.

### **Further Information**

Wirral Council have produced a list of questions and answers that parents may have on the Wirral Council website [here](#), which you may find useful to refer to.

Hopefully this has answered any questions you may have had, but please feel free to contact us if you need any further information.

Best wishes,

Holly

