



15th July 2021

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of another challenging year, we have seen the Prime Minister now announce the changes that will take place from July 19th.

We have also been issued with operational guidance from the Department For Education and I wanted to begin this letter by sharing how this will effect Whiston Willis from September 2021.

- Class Bubbles will come to an end
- Start and finish times will revert back to pre COVID.
- Contact tracing by school will cease and close contacts will be identified through NHS Track and Trace.

In addition to the above information, we wanted to share key information for a smooth return to school in September.

UNIFORM:

School uniform for September is available from Whitakers Uniform in St. Helens and is also available from Topform in Prescot.

The expectations for school uniform are available on the school website- please ensure that correct school uniform is worn by the children including correct footwear.

The children attending school in PE kits has been a success this year on the whole, with the only concern being raised by parents is when PE is delivered on consecutive days and kit can't be washed.

The concern we have as a school links to the concerns raised by parents and it is that PE days have turned into 'non- uniform' days with football kits etc being worn.

We have decided that we will continue with the children wearing PE kits on PE days for the first half term **HOWEVER** correct PE kit must be worn on these days. If we find that correct PE kit is not being worn then we will have to revert back to children changing in school and attending every day in school uniform.

To support this, we will ensure no class has PE on consecutive days so that kit can be washed.

Normal school PE kit can be supplemented with black/navy blue leggings/ tracksuit bottoms only.

All children will be provided with all the necessary equipment for school and buying stationary is not a requirement for children.

Please ensure all uniform is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Please also note that earrings must be studs only. Children will be asked to remove hooped earrings due to the potential Health and Safety issues that these may cause.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS:

From September, we will be restarting after school clubs for the children. We have always offered a range of activities for the children and COVID has impacted negatively on this. A letter will be sent when we return to school outlining clubs available in the Autumn term.

Learning for Life



WHISTON WILLIS PRIMARY ACADEMY

WRAP AROUND CARE:

Our Breakfast and After School Club 'Wrap Around' provision will be available immediately in September and will continue to be held in the modular building at the back of the school car park off Milton Avenue. If you require provision, please contact the school office who will be able to take your bookings and ensure you secure places as availability is limited.

SNACKS:

Can I remind all parents that the snacks and packed lunches the children bring to school should be appropriate in size and healthy choices. Children can bring water to school to drink in class and are allowed juice within a packed lunch at lunchtime.

CLASS INFORMATION

Class	Teacher	Entrance and Collection Point	Start Time	End Time
Squirrel	Mrs Fitzgerald/ Mrs Attwood	Gate B (Milton Avenue) into nursery	8.30am	11.30am
Rabbit	Mrs Fitzgerald/ Mrs Attwood	Gate B (Milton Avenue) into nursery	12.15pm	3.15pm
Hedgehog	Mrs Halsall/Mrs Hemnell	Gate B (Milton Avenue) to White gates	8.50am	3.00pm
Owl	Miss Chiocchi	Gate B (Milton Avenue) to White gates	8.50am	3.00pm
Jaguar	Miss Atkin	Gate C (Weyman Avenue) Classroom Door	8.50am	3.00pm
Pangolin	Mrs Simpson/ Mrs Askew	Gate C (Weyman Avenue) Classroom Door	8.50am	3.00pm
Panda	Miss Murdoch	Gate B (Milton Avenue) Classroom Door	8.50am	3.00pm
Zebra	Miss Harrison	Gate C (Weyman Avenue) Playground	8.50am	3.10pm
Lion	Mrs Pender	Gate C (Weyman Avenue) Playground	8.50am	3.10pm
Shark	Mr Phillips	Gate C (Weyman Avenue) Playground	8.50am	3.10pm
Penguin	Mrs Williams	Gate D (Weyman Avenue) Playground	8.50am	3.10pm
Wolf	Mr Wong	Gate D (Weyman Avenue) Playground	8.50am	3.10pm
Cheetah	Miss Caldwell	Gate D (Weyman Avenue) Playground	8.50am	3.10pm

Please note- We will allow for a 'soft start' every morning by opening the school gates at 8.40 am and allowing children to enter school at this time. All children should arrive at school by 8.50am. The school external gates will close at 8.55am and any late comers should enter school through the main entrance on Milton Avenue.

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ATTENDANCE:

Knowsley Council are launching a new strategy to improve attendance of children across the area. A significant amount of investment is going into this as school attendance has been severely impacted on in the last two years. Attending every day is vital to ensure your children access their right to education and achieve their full potential so they can improve their future life chances. Parental responsibility means that the onus is on you as parents to ensure your children attend school regularly (over 97% attendance should be a target for all) failing to fulfil this responsibility can be classed as educational neglect and lead to prosecution. We want to work with families to ensure all children achieve their very best and being in school every day is vital for this.

STAFFING:

We are happy to have added capacity to our staffing team from September. Mrs Simpson is continuing to work with us for three days a week in Key Stage 1 as Class teacher in Pangolin Class. This will enable Miss Watkins (SENCO) to further develop our provision across school for pupils with SEND.

Mrs Martin will be joining us as a Learning Mentor to supplement our pastoral team and work closely with Mrs Steele to ensure we are able to meet the increasing pastoral needs of children that we are facing currently.

Mrs Young is joining us to work as a classroom support assistant (Jaguar Class) and we are also happy that Mrs Hauge will continue to work within our Reception team.

THANKS:

I would like to wish all our Y6 pupils lots of luck as they leave us to join their new high schools in September. The last eighteen months have not been what we expected for them and they have as a whole year group been fantastic in continuing to learn well and develop into pupils that we are all very proud of. I am sure they will continue to achieve well and be brilliant role models in their future lives.

I want to thank you for your support this year during a further period of widespread disruption. The children have continued to shine throughout this and they are all a credit to themselves and their families. I hope you all have a safe and wonderful summer break and return to school refreshed and ready to go again!

I also want to thank all the staff who have worked tirelessly this year to ensure the children have progressed well -We are lucky to have so many committed and talented staff!

If you have any queries over the summer holiday, please call school as office staff are available for the majority of the summer break.

Have a lovely summer holiday and we will see you all on THURSDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER.

Ian Cooper