

Update 1 – 24/6/20

Following on from guidance issued recently by the Department of Education, we have developed the following update concerning the ‘reopening’ of West Winds Primary School for the next academic year, 2020/21.

Throughout the C-19 pandemic, official guidance and advice has constantly changed, reflecting the changing nature of the pandemic. This update, therefore only reflects the advice we have currently received and may change in response to further guidance from government. Should the information in this update become out of date, we will attempt to issue further advice as soon as possible.

There will undoubtedly be changes that you will notice about school when we return. In the middle of all of this however, we will be striving hard to make sure that West Winds remains a welcoming, nurturing, engaging place for children to be and where their wellbeing, happiness and learning is prioritised.

	Notes
Pattern of Attendance	<i>The Department of Education has recommended that Primary school children return to full time education, while implementing a ‘protective bubble’ strategy.</i>
At this stage, we expect to be able to have full time attendance for all children in West Winds Primary School and Nursery Unit.	<p>The Department of Education advice stipulates that schools should follow social distancing guidance of 2 metres between adults and 1 metre between children. To strengthen the 1 metre guidance between children, schools are instructed to create ‘protective bubbles’ whereby children within the bubble are prevented from mixing with children from another bubble.</p> <p>Having measured our classroom spaces and considered the use of additional rooms in school, we are able to welcome all of our children back to school whilst maintaining a 1metre distance between children in the classroom. This is due, in part, to the smaller number of children we have in each class (a maximum of 24) and the relatively modern age of our classrooms, which are therefore larger in size.</p> <p>Therefore, protective bubbles, with appropriate social distancing within them, can be formed that take in an entire class. The school day has been reconfigured in order to prevent these class bubbles from mixing together whilst at school. As such, there is no need to reduce class sizes nor the amount of time children can attend school.</p>
Starting Dates	
<i>17th August</i>	<i>Staff to return to school</i>
All children in P7 Monday 24 th August 8.45 – 12.00	The Department of Education has stated that Primary 7 pupils should return to school on this date. The school day will finish at 12.00 each day for this first week , in order to aid the children’s transition back to school.
All children in P2 – P6 Tuesday 25 th August 8.45 – 12.00	The Department of Education has stated that all other children should return to school by the normal school starting date. The school day will finish at 12.00 each day for this first week, in order to aid the children’s transition back to school.
All P1 Children <i>Starting from</i> Tuesday 25 th August	Miss Carson has communicated specific starting dates and times for our new P1 children, in order to stagger their start into P1.
All Nursery Children <i>Starting from</i> Tuesday 1 st September	Mrs Gibson has communicated specific starting dates and times for our new Nursery children, in order to stagger their start into Nursery. Initial meetings with parent and child will take place from 25 th August.
Further advice to come	
	We expect to issue further advice to parents and community before the children return to school on the 24 th /25 th August. This will be done through the school website,

	text messaging and on the school FaceBook page. We are waiting until we see the most relevant public health and education guidance before issuing this advice.
Drop Off/ Pick up	We expect to have systems in place in order to manage the number of people on the school site at any one time and reduce congestion and social mixing.
Hygiene	Enhanced cleaning schedules will be in place throughout the school building, in line with relevant guidance.
Connecting home and school	In order to minimise the risk of cross-contamination, we are developing plans and strategies for how we manage the flow of items that travel between home and school e.g. homework/ school bags and equipment.
School meals	We await further guidance from the School Meals Service.