

Great Whelnetham
Church of England Primary School
By growing together, we become the best we can be'

Chair of Governors: Caroline Robinson CEO: Melanie Barrow
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19th May 2020

Arrangements for returning to school 1st June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to recent changes in government policy and the subsequent letter sent by Mrs Barrow, I am writing with more details on implementing plans to welcome some children back to school after half term. A number of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will be joining us, as well as children of critical care workers and those requiring support. The children will be, as far as possible, with their usual teachers and teaching assistants in their usual classrooms, apart from the latter group who will be known as The Magpies. Numbers in each class or group will not exceed 15 and will be organised as follows:

Class structure

Rec/Year 1 (Larks) – In their classroom with Miss Wedderburn, Mrs Coe and Mrs Large

Year 1 (Robins) – In their classroom with Mrs Masson and Mrs Ellis

Magpies – In current Year 3 classroom with Miss Tyler, Mrs Lockwood, Mrs Medcalf and Mrs Barbrooke

Year 6 (Swans) – In their classroom with Mrs Sharp, Miss Robson and Mrs Gomersall

Classrooms, lunch and play

Older children will be allocated and retain their own desks and equipment, spaced apart. Younger children will be learning and playing in more open, clutter free space. All equipment will be regularly sanitised and hand washing kept frequent and according to guidelines specified. Play and break times will be staggered to keep groups in their own 'Bubbles' and the same staff will remain with them as far as possible.

Please provide returning children with a packed lunch which will be eaten in their classrooms or outside if weather is suitable. When I have information about other catering options, I will circulate it.

Email: office@greatwhelnetham.co.uk

School website: <http://www.greatwhelnetham.suffolk.sch.uk/website>

Values for Life: Compassion, Courage, Friendship, Trust, Truthfulness, Hope, Peace, Thankfulness, Creativity, Forgiveness, Humility and Justice.

To observe social distancing and keep 2 metres apart, we ask families to drop off and collect children promptly to limit crowds or clusters of people in any one place. Please see the arrangements for each class below:

Class/Group	Drop off and collection times	Location of drop off and collection and points to observe
Reception/ Yr 1 (Larks)	Drop off: 8.50 - 9.00 am Collection: 3.15 pm	Drop off Enter school through the side gate that leads directly into the playground which will be left open. Leave your child to come through the small wooden gate which leads into Larks outdoor space, a member of staff will be there to meet you and guide your child into class Collection Enter school through the same gate as above. Collect your child from the same small wooden gate where your child was dropped off. A member of staff will guide your child to you at this point.
Year 1 (Robins)	Drop off: 8.50 - 9.00 am Collection: 3.15 pm	Drop off Enter through the main school gate at spaced intervals, follow path in front of school round to the area next to the door of the Year 1/2 classroom. A member of staff will be by the door, which will be left open, to guide your child into class. Collection Wait in the same area outside the classroom. Your child will be guided to you from the classroom door. Exit the same way you came in.
Magpies (Years 2-5)	Drop off: 8.50 - 9.00 am Collection: 3.25 pm	Drop off Enter through the main school gate at spaced intervals, follow path round the back of the school to drop your child at the outside door of the year 3 classroom (usually called Kingfishers). Keep going in the same direction to exit through the playground and the gate leading to the lane outside the school. Collection Follow the same route to collect and leave with your child.
Year 6 (Swans)	Drop off/arrive at school: 8.50 - 9.00 am Collection/leave school: 3.25 pm	If you drop your child off and collect them, please do this by entering and leaving the school through the gate leading directly into the playground. If they come to school and leave independently, please inform them that they must take this same route. This will be reinforced by the class teacher.

Please note that we are asking some classes to enter and/or exit through the gate that leads directly into

the playground at the back of the school. This helps to avoid groups converging at the same time and place and to retain social distancing. To access this gate you will need to walk down the lane a little way which does not have a pavement. The lane is occasionally used for farm vehicles and cars so you will need to ensure that children are supervised at all times, and that those children who will continue to come to school unescorted are suitably warned to walk down the sides of the lane and to be vigilant.

Social Distancing and Personal, Health and Social Education

We have placed signs around the school as a reminder to us all to maintain social distancing. We will endeavour to retain social distancing as much as we can and assist children to do so as well, whilst recognising that in certain circumstances, particularly with very young children this will not always be possible. When the children return to class, we will initially spend time helping them to understand and follow the changes we have had to instate at school and reasons for them in an age appropriate way. We will give the children time to adjust to returning to school and the new structures, discussing how they have engaged with home learning and their achievements.

We are keeping in mind that some of you are either continuing with home educating and/or have made the decision that, although currently eligible, you do not want your child to return to school at this juncture. We respect the difficult decisions you are making through these times. I would like to applaud the wonderful work that has been achieved at home and thank you for sharing this with us through your photographs. Please keep them coming, the website is a vibrant sharing platform, celebration of your successes and an important way of keeping connected. Staff, including myself, will continue to make regular phone calls to keep in contact with you and children who are at home, and will also be on hand for telephone contact when not teaching if you have questions or queries that require discussion

Kind regards,

Ms Wallis
Head of School

