



Worthington Primary School
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“We Only Reach for The Highest”

Thursday 9th July 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I should imagine that you have many questions regarding the coming days and the start of the new term, so I have put together this Q & A newsletter.

- **When will my child finish for the summer?**

That all depends on which year group they are currently in.

If your child is attending school right now and is in the Nursery or Reception age group, then he or she will finish school at their pick-up time on Wednesday 22nd July.

If your child is attending school right now and is in the Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6 age group, then he or she will finish school at their pick-up time on Thursday 23rd July.

- **Will school be open in the summer holiday, just like it was during the Whit half term holiday?**

No.
Trafford have instructed all their schools not to open during the summer, unless a particular school would normally have a summer play scheme. We cannot open due to hot work (playground tarmacking) taking place in the school grounds, on both the junior and infant side of the school. We are extending the Key Stage One playground and removing the wooden fence at the edge of the playground, in order to accommodate the greater number of children we expect in school from next year onwards.

- **When will my child be able to return to school in September?**

That all depends on which year group your child will be in from September.

If your child will be in Year 1 to Year 6 inclusive, then she or he will return to school on Thursday 3rd September.

If your child will be in Nursery or Reception, you have already received the information about their staggered start to school in September.

- **Will school be operating a staggered drop-off and pick up system in September?**

Yes.
The details of your child's drop-off and pick-up will be given to you with their record of achievement for this year. We will send this home with your child (if currently attending), or by post (if not currently attending) on Friday 17th July.

- **What will my child need to wear at school in September?**

Normal school uniform.

The Government has informed schools that children should wear their uniform on their return in September and these should be cleaned with your normal washing products no more regularly than before the start of the coronavirus outbreak.

- **Will my child need to bring anything else with them?**

If your child brings their own packed lunch to school, they will need to bring this in a washable container every day. No other bags, including book bags and P.E. bags (see below) must come into school.

As we can no longer use our water fountains, please provide a named water bottle (and on hot days two bottles) for your child. Water bottles must be taken home each afternoon and brought back every morning.

If your child is in Year 3 to Year 6, we are asking you to provide them with a named, clear pencil case containing pencil crayons and felt tips. This will then stay in school for the exclusive use of your child. School will provide every other piece of required learning resource.

- **My child has reading books and library books at home; how can I get them back to school?**

We will want these books back so that we can use them in school. On your child's return to school, please bring back these books in a carrier bag. Each classroom will have a 'drop box', where children can deposit these books. After three days, these books will then be returned to their usual location by staff members.

- **Will the school be running a school meals service?**

Yes.

If your child has a school meal provided by Trafford, then she/he will still have a school lunch provided in September. We will be providing a nutritious packed lunch service from our school kitchen and all children will eat either the packed lunch provided by school or the packed lunch they have brought in themselves, in their class bubble, reducing the amount of movement in school during this vital early period of our school's full reopening. We have been operating a cooked meal service since our wider opening in June, but if we were to offer a fully cooked meal service from September, our lunch period would have to begin by 11 am and not be finished until 2 pm. This would mean many children would be eating a full meal either too early or too late. Packed lunches provided by the school meal service will include wraps, fresh fruit and other favourite food currently provided by the school kitchen, which will then be delivered to each class bubble. By doing so, the lunch break will become a manageable amount of time within each school day.

Please note that individual dietary requirements will still be catered for.

There will be no rise in the cost of a school dinner this September – meals will continue to cost £2.30 per day / £11.50 per week. Please remember that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all are entitled to a free lunch from Trafford meals service.

- **How do I now notify school if I wish to change my child's meal arrangements?**

If you intend for your child to change from a school-provided lunch to one provided by yourself, please email the school office on:

admin@worthingtonprimary.co.uk by Wednesday 15th July at the latest.

- **Will I still use Parent Pay to pay for school lunches and any other costs?**

Yes.

If you have not signed up for Parent Pay, please do so. In addition to payments, we are using Parent Pay for email communication which will be vital in the months to come, as we try to reduce paper moving between school and home. Also, from September, we are moving from our current text provider to the Parent Pay text facility. If you have not registered your telephone numbers with Parent Pay, you will miss so much. If you are unsure as to how to go about registration with Parent Pay, please contact the school office and they can help you sign up in no time at all.

- **Will my child be covering all the subjects of either the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum or the National Curriculum from September?**

Yes.

There will be adjustments to the curriculum in recognition of the fact that the majority of our children have not been in school since 20th March. Our focus will be on a broad and balanced curriculum that emphasises literacy and numeracy but does not ignore nor forget that children gain so much from learning so many other things. Our foundation subjects (e.g. history, geography, religious education, art, etc.) have been modified so that we will teach slightly less content but children will still gain the essential skills required to work effectively within these subjects.

Physical education will only take place outdoors, and so in the very wet weather, sadly we will have to reduce the amount of P.E. offered each week. On the day/days assigned for P.E., we ask that every child comes to school wearing clothing appropriate for outdoor P.E. In this way, children will not need to get changed before and after their lesson. This helps us with social distancing issues in school. Class teachers will notify you of the day/s of P.E. I remind you all that the school PE kit consists of navy-blue shorts and white t-shirt in warmer weather and a blue tracksuit with white t-shirt in colder weather. Suitable outdoor footwear should be worn on these days. We really want every child to take a full part in P.E. lessons and therefore will need this kit to do so.

- **My child has not been in school since 20th March, will he/she be invited into school at some time over the next two weeks to meet his/her new class teacher?**

Unfortunately, this is something we simply cannot do. If we were to do it, we would be breaking bubbles and potentially spreading illness. However, every class teacher from Year 1 upwards is in the process of writing a letter to their new class which will be uploaded to the school's website on the same page as the work we have left for the last few months. Each teacher will introduce themselves to the children and let them know about all the exciting things the children will be doing next term. In addition, teachers will add some suitable web links for children to take a look at over the summer.

Please be assured that your child's happiness is paramount to everyone at Worthington. We shall all take the time to carefully reintroduce your child back to school to ensure their well-being.

- **My child is going into Year 3 and is looking forward to swimming lessons this year. Will these be going ahead?**

We don't know yet. No decision has yet been made by Trafford regarding swimming lessons, which for our school, includes travel via coach.

- **My child has a peripatetic music lesson in school each week; will this still go ahead?**

We hope that they will but we will have to work with music providers to ensure that their risk assessments are adequately robust. As soon as we have had time to work with the providers, we aim to notify relevant parents as soon as possible after our restart in September.

- **My child is currently in Year 6; will I get a refund for the cancelled residential trip to**

Robin Wood?

Yes.

School has now received half of the refund from Robin Wood, and we await the other half from Trafford's insurance company. We anticipate that this will be with us in the next few days and we hope to have the full refund available for parents when they pick up their child on the afternoon that most of our Year 6 are coming in to school to say goodbye – Wednesday 22nd July. I am so sorry that you have had to wait so very long for this refund – the office staff and I have been working flat out to get this for you.

- **I need to contact the school office; how do I go about this?**

Please do not contact the school office directly in person at either drop-off or pick-up times, as the school's main entrance will be extremely busy with children entering school. Please either telephone the office staff on 0161 973 3504 or alternatively, email school on:

admin@worthingtonprimary.co.uk

- **I need to contact my child's class teacher; how do I go about this?**

Please email or telephone the school office as above and the office staff will contact the teacher, who will then contact you via email or telephone.

- **I have my child's name down for Kid's Collective Wrap Around Club, will this be operating from September?**

Yes.

Please contact Kid's Collective directly on 0161 980 0003 with any enquiries you may have.

I am sure you may have more questions for us, but for now, I think this may be enough to be going on with.

Yours



Mr Searle