

Friday 3rd September 2021

Welcome Back - Academic Year 2021-2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you have had a lovely summer break and have enjoyed time with your children, family and friends. We are looking forward to a year where school-life returns to some sort of normal for us all.

As Covid-19 restrictions have lifted across England, it's important that we inform you of the measures and procedures that are in place for our school reopening on Monday 6th September 2021.

Covid-19 Changes

Following Government guidelines there will be changes to our risk assessment and school procedures which reflect the lifting of restrictions.

From September 6th the following changes will take place:

- Children will no longer be in group bubbles
- Children identified as a close contact can return to school whilst waiting for a PCR result
- Educational visits return
- No one-way systems
- Parents are only informed of a positive Covid-19 test if the school has an outbreak

Covid-19 Keeps

Throughout the pandemic there have been several areas of school life that have benefited from the changes that had been implemented and we have chosen to keep some of these changes which are listed below:

- PE kit to be worn to school on PE Days
- Lunchtime groupings
- Playground groups

Living in a World with Covid-19

Although we are now returning to a more normal way of life, Covid-19 still poses a risk to everyone and we have to take careful steps in school to ensure we keep everyone as safe as possible.

In school we are continuing to:

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

Masks

As a school we are asking all parents to continue wearing a face covering when they:

- Attend an in school event
- Drop off/collect children from the playground

Although, we can't make anyone wear a face covering, we do encourage everyone to do this in order to help us minimise the spread of the virus. Your child's safety and the safety of our staff and community is of the utmost importance to us.

Testing

- Staff will continue to test for Covid-19 twice weekly in school.
- Children are encouraged to take a LFT (Lateral Flow Test) before returning to school in September.
- Regular LFT home testing for children is encouraged.
- Children will be sent home to have a PCR test if they display Covid-19 symptoms.
- Children **must not** come into school if they have Covid-19 Symptoms. They must get a PCR test and can return once a negative test is received

Self-Isolation

The rules on self-isolation for children in primary schools has changed a little and is outlined below:

- You must self-isolate for 10 days if you have Covid-19 (positive PCR test)
- Children identified as a close contact, by NHS Track and Trace, must get a PCR test but can come into school whilst waiting on the result
- Siblings **do not** have to self-isolate unless they test positive on their PCR or develop Covid-19 symptoms

Confirmed Covid-19 Cases

You will only be informed of a positive Covid-19 case in school if your child has been in close contact with the individual. The NHS are now carrying out all track and trace for schools and they are responsible for letting you know.

The school will inform you if there is a Covid-19 outbreak in the school. An outbreak is identified as, if, within the school, a group of people, who have been in close contact, test positive within 10 days. If this happens, you will be immediately informed and the following safety measures will be reintroduced for a period of time.

- Masks will be worn by all staff and parents on site in shared areas
- Bubbles will be reintroduced
- Educational visits will stop
- One way systems will be reintroduced
- Reduce parents coming into school

In extreme cases and only as a last resort, will attendance restrictions be introduced for large groups of children

Covid-19 Symptoms

Covid-19 symptoms to look out for are:

- A persistent cough
- A high temperature
- Loss of taste or smell

If your child has any of these symptoms they **must not** come into school and must get a PCR test immediately. If the PCR is negative your child is welcome back into school.

If the PCR test is positive your child will self-isolate for 10 days and be asked to do their learning remotely and through DB Primary.

If your child has Covid-19 Symptoms and you don't take them for a PCR test, they will not be allowed in school. They will need to self-isolate for 10 days and will be expected to do their learning remotely and through DB Primary.

The School Day

Dartford Avenue gate is the entrance and exit for Robin Hall Nursery.

Nursery parents are asked to take their children to their classrooms.

Robin Hall Nursery	Dartford Gate Opens	Start Time	Lunch	Dartford Gate Opens	End
Full time	8:25am	8:30am	11:30 -12:15	3:05pm	3:10/3:15
AM	8:25am	8:30am		11:25am	11:30am
PM	12:10pm	12:15pm		3:05pm	3:10/3:15pm
				Main Office	Up to 6:15pm

Reception parents are allowed onsite in the morning to take their children to their classrooms.

Dartford Avenue is the best gate to access the Reception classes.

Children from Y1–Y6 must be dropped off at any gate in the morning.

Staff will be on the gates to support children into the building.

All parents are welcome into the playground at the end of the day, through any gate, to pick up their children.

Woodpecker Hall	All Gates Open	AM Session Starts	Break	Lunch	PM Session Starts	All Gates Open	End
Year R	8:45	8:55		11:30-12:25	12:30	3:05 Dartford	3:10
Year 1	8:45	8:55	10:30-10:45	12:00-12:55	1:00	3:05 Dartford	3:10
Year 2	8:45	8:55	10:30-10:45	12:00-12:55	1:00	3:10	3:15
Year 3	8:45	8:55	10:30-10:45	12:15-1:10	1:15	3:10	3:15
Year 4	8:45	8:55	10:45-11:00	12:15-1:10	1:15	3:10	3:15
Year 5	8:45	8:55	10:45-11:00	12:15-1:10	1:15	3:10	3:15
Year 6	8:45	8:55	10:45-11:00	12:15-1:10	1:15	3:10	3:15

Meet the Teacher Coffee Morning

We would like to welcome all parents into school to meet their child's new class teacher and find out what the expectations are for the year group. This is a great opportunity to find out what will be covered this year and to ask any questions you may have.

Coffee, Tea and biscuits will be provided for everyone.

We request that parents wear their face masks at this meeting.

Date	Year Group	Time	Location
Wednesday 8 th September	Year 1	9-10	Upper School Hall
Thursday 9 th September	Year 2	9-10	Upper School Hall
Friday 10 th September	Year 3	9-10	Upper School Hall
Monday 13 th September	Year 6	9-10:30	Upper School Hall
Tuesday 14 th September	Year 5	9-10	Upper School Hall
Wednesday 15 th September	Year 4	9-10	Upper School Hall

Secondary School Transfer Meeting

All year 6 parents are invited to a meeting to discuss Secondary school choices and the process for applying for Secondary Schools.

This is an important meeting and all parents are encouraged to attend.

This meeting will take place straight after the Meet the teacher Coffee morning on **Monday 13th September 2021**.

Woodpecker Hall School Uniform

The new Woodpecker Hall School Uniform isn't compulsory until January 5th 2022. Therefore, children can wear their Cuckoo and old Woodpecker jumpers until then.

Girls

White shirt (long or short sleeved)
School tie
V-neck purple jumper or cardigan (school logo)
Grey Skirt
Grey Pinafore
White socks
White, grey or back tights
Grey trousers
Purple gingham dress (Summer)
Black shoes

Boys

White shirt (long or short sleeved)
School tie
PV-neck purple jumper or cardigan (school logo)
Grey trousers
White, grey or back socks
Black shoes

PE Kits

Indoor PE:	Outdoor PE:
Navy shorts	Navy jogging bottoms
White T-shirt	Navy zip up jumper
Black plimsolls	White T-shirt, Trainers

Kind Regards,

Nicky Ross

Headteacher Woodpecker Hall Academy
CHAT Leader of Primary of Education