



**Weston CofE (VC) Primary & Nursery
School**

Head Teacher

Mr G. Holmes

Deputy Head

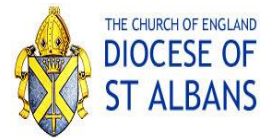
Mrs A. Gooderson

Maiden Street
Weston
Herts
SG4 7AG

Tel: 01462 790317

E-mail: admin@weston.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.weston.herts.sch.uk



Wednesday 25th August

Dear Parent or Carer

I hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer. We look forward to welcoming everybody back to school on Thursday 2nd September next week. I thought it would be helpful to write to you now to remind you of the planned arrangements for the new school year, based on the latest guidance for schools from the Government's Department for Education and Herts County Council.

The guidance states that, since the risks to children from Covid-19 are extremely low, and every adult will have had the opportunity for two doses of the vaccine by mid-September, we will be able to do away with the 'bubbles' arrangement in school from September. This means that we will be able to return to the usual start and end times for the school day for all children and we will no longer need to ask parents to wear masks while on the school grounds.

As a reminder the normal start and end times are;

- Doors are open between 8.45am and 8.55am every morning for all pupils
- Nursery pupils finish at 12.00 noon
- All other pupils finish at 3.15pm (with earlier finish times for Reception pupils for the first 2 weeks).

We will also return to the usual arrangements for where to drop off and collect your child/children, with one modification for the Year 1/2, Carle class;

- Everyone should enter and leave the school grounds via the pedestrian and vehicle gates on Maiden Street (there is no longer any need for the one-way system)
- For Donaldson class (Nursery and Reception), please drop off and collect your child/children at the Donaldson classroom door
- For Carle class (Year 1/2 class) please drop off and collect your child/children at the small wooden gate at the lower end of the Carle class outside area
- For all other classes, please drop off your child/children at the door at the front of the school buildings (I will be there to say "Good morning" to the children and take any messages) and then collect your child/children from their individual classroom doors.

We will also no longer need to separate the different 'bubbles' at break times and lunch times and we will be able to return to face to face assemblies (which I am very much looking forward to). We also hope that other normal school activities, such as parent evening meetings in the hall, church services etc. will be able to take place once more, although that will be subject to confirmation.

Ofsted Inspection Jan 2018 –

'Pupils are confident and self-assured and enjoy their learning.'

'Pupils behave very well.'



To help reduce the risk of transmission of the virus in the school, we will need to continue to ensure that everyone coming into the school continues to frequently and thoroughly clean their hands (with soap and water or sanitiser) and continues to follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach (using tissues, washing hands etc.). In addition, we will continue to complete extra cleaning of frequently touched surfaces in school and use opened windows to help ventilate the buildings.

Anyone who shows symptoms of Covid-19 (a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of taste or smell) will still have to self-isolate away from school and book a PCR test and everyone will still have to follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. However, entire 'bubbles' will not have to close. We will also continue to ask you to keep your child off school if they are ill or unwell in any way.

All staff will re-start undertaking twice-weekly lateral flow tests in September.

In addition, the school has an Outbreak Management Contingency Plan in place outlining the arrangements if there were an outbreak at our school, in which case it is possible that we would have to return to the previous arrangements regarding staggered times for 'bubbles' etc. We hope that this will never be necessary.

Thank you for your understanding. The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for everyone involved. We look forward to helping your child/children settle back into school so they can make progress with their learning and development once more.

Yours faithfully

Geoff Holmes
Head Teacher