



Wildmoor Heath School
Lower Broadmoor Road
Crowthorne, Berkshire RG45 7HD

Headteacher: Mrs L Semper
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Wednesday, 1st September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN TERM COMMENCING MONDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2021

I hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer holiday, relaxing with your family. The Wildmoor team is looking forward very much to welcoming you back to school from 8:40am on Monday, 6th September 2021. For the next three days, the staff are participating in three INSETS, covering a programme of professional development and training, including annual Safeguarding training, curriculum progression and Wildmoor's strategic priorities for 2021/2022. We will also be spending time on phonics teaching and the importance of reading skills across the full curriculum.

NEW GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES AND THE CONTINGENCY FRAMEWORK

The government has issued new guidelines for school which restore a great deal of normality to school life; we are no longer required keep the children in their class 'bubbles'. This means that schools can return to whole school assemblies, mixed year group activities and receive visitors back in the building. The government's advice is as follows:

'The Government has made it a national priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. The overarching objective is to maximise the number of children and young people in face-to-face education or childcare and minimise any disruption, in a way that best manages the COVID-19 risk.'

'The impacts of having missed face-to-face education during the pandemic are severe for children, young people and adults. In all cases, any benefits in managing transmission should be weighed against any educational drawbacks.'

The new government guidelines dated 27th August 2021 can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

The government has also issued a Contingency Framework dated August 2021, which can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1011704/20210817_Contingency_Framework_FINAL.pdf

I have written a Wildmoor Heath Contingency Outbreak Management Plan dated 1st September 2021, which can be found on the school website, under the Covid-19 section.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

At this early stage, it is vital that we all remain vigilant to the risk of infection and maintain a number of proven measures. Some teachers may wear masks for their own protection in the school playground and parents/carers would feel free to do this if they prefer.

We will maintain regular hand cleansing throughout the day at school, and would ask that you ensure your child follows this regime at home. Desks and work surfaces will be cleaned during the day to eliminate the risk of infection. School assemblies will be kept to a maximum of 15 minutes. We ask that parents do not enter the school site through the gates but continue to drop off and collect at their respective gates (see below).

RETURNING TO SCHOOL

From Monday, 6th September 2021, we will return to normal school drop-off and collection times, namely 8:40am and 3:15pm. Teachers will welcome all pupils from 8:40am to 8:50am, (Reception children have separate joining arrangements) at the same year group gates as before the summer holidays. These are shown below:

YEAR GROUPS	ENTRY POINT	DROP-OFF TIME	COLLECTION TIME
3 and 6	Pedestrian gate	8:40am	3:15pm
4 and 5	Driveway gate	8:40am	3:15pm
1 and 2	Carpark gate	8:40am	3:15pm

We would ask that all parents drop their children off in the same way as before the summer holidays, and do not enter through the gates. Reception parents will be an exception to this when their children start school. This method has worked smoothly, allowing pupils to go straight to class with their friends and begin their learning. Teachers believe that it has built children's independence, learning behaviours and social skills. Please ensure that your child is dropped off in school by latest 8:50am to be ready for their learning. At Wildmoor Heath, an important part of the learning is our early work and children will miss out on this if they are not in school promptly. All pupils are warmly encouraged to ride your bikes or scooters to school (with helmets for safety) and to park these either down the driveway (Y4 and Y5), or in the covered bike shed (YR, Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y6).

STAFFING

Welcome back to Mrs Leach following her maternity leave. Over the coming year, she will be supporting various classes across the school. I am also delighted to welcome Miss Barrass to our school as the substantive Year 4 teacher and wish her congratulations on her highly successful training year. I would also like to welcome Miss Church who joins us as a Teacher Direct trainee, working initially in Reception. The school SENDCo Mrs MacManus will also be doing some extra days working as an interventions teacher, in addition to her SENDCo dedicated hours.

IMPROVEMENTS TO WILDMOOR'S OUTDOOR PROVISION

Over the summer holidays, the school has benefitted from a number of wonderful improvements to our external provision. Hall Hunter Partnership, a locally based national producer of fruit and vegetables, has funded the extension works for The Haven, which has literally doubled in size. The Haven now incorporates the large climbing apparatus, giving children a wonderful area to build shelters and explore in a closely supervised 'Discovery Zone'. Hall Hunter sent in a very professional team who have also created our own wildflower burrow adjacent to the Sensory Garden. I would like to thank Hall Hunter and in particular Miss Kurzydlo and Mr Suhajda (parents to Helena) , on behalf of all our children and staff, for their fantastic work. I also extend our heartfelt thanks to those parents who have come in to work on The Haven, painting, planting and weeding, and to those who supported Hall Hunter, notably Miss Winks, Mrs Lovenberry, Mrs Hemmingway, Mr Lexton and Mrs Zhalovaga. Your team efforts have made a huge difference!



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A FEW REMINDERS

Please find below a few key reminders for Monday morning:

- ✓ Full school uniform please (including long hair tied back neatly, with minimal hair accessories)
- ✓ Full PE kit (trainers, sky blue round neck t-shirt, navy blue shorts, plus navy sweatshirt and jogging trousers / leggings for when it gets chilly) – in a named bag. (Please do not wear earrings to school at all if possible, earrings cannot be worn during PE, so if your child has to wear earrings, please ensure they can take them out and have somewhere safe to store them.)
- ✓ Waterproof coat (preferably with hood) and outdoor shoes (can be PE trainers) / wellies (YR-Y2)
- ✓ Please send only healthy (nut-free) playtime snacks e.g. fruit or vegetables.
- ✓ School lunches can be ordered in classroom as normal. Please remember to top-up your ParentPay account (Y3-Y6), or bring a packed lunch.
- ✓ Water bottle (named).
- ✓ Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club can be booked with EnergyKidz via <https://www.energy-kidz.co.uk/breakfast-and-after-school-clubs/crowthorne-wildmoor-heath-2/>

We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday, 6th September 2021 and to greeting new families for the start of the autumn term. Once again, I am sure you will appreciate the amount of hard work that the whole team has undertaken at this 'return to normal' stage. This has not been without some concern and we are all determined to do the best for our learners whilst protecting both the children and the staff. Thank you for your understanding and support. Please contact the school office if you have any queries, or your class teacher on the class e-mail e.g. Year3@wildmoorheath.org.uk.

Best regards,

Mrs Semper
Headteacher