



Wheatcroft Primary School



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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you are having an enjoyable summer with family and friends and that you have been able to spend some time away or some quality days out with the recent easing of lockdown.

We have looked carefully at the challenge that is the Government's requirement to stagger opening from September and feel that we are now in a position to share with you these proposed plans. We are very fortunate to have a site that has a number of gates, however we fully understand that the staggered start and finish times may cause complications particularly if you have more than one child and need to collect or deliver at different times or gates. However, we hope that in sending you the times now, this will give you time to consider how you can manage this.

Many options have needed to be considered and these decisions will be under constant review to ensure the best experience for your children. We will need to carefully monitor the start and ends of the day to ensure that these key times are quick and efficient and do not involve people needing to wait around the gates. We ask that you help us with this and that wherever possible, you ensure that your child is handed over swiftly to the member of staff and that you leave the gate area immediately. We know that this will feel uncomfortable to you as parents particularly when dropping off your child on the first day of term but the staff are well placed to support all of our children's emotional wellbeing and will, of course, contact you if any discussion or support is required. If your child is using the twitchel entrance, we kindly request that you follow the one-way systems that are in place. For other collections, we will help guide you through one-way systems and arrows; we thank you in advance for your support whilst we implement this. For our Reception children who are new to school, we have considered how the first day of school is already such a significant milestone for these children; we will, therefore, be supporting them with a more staggered start on the first two days of term. We will send this guidance out to you in a separate communication and will also update Tapestry with this information.

As always, we are following the Government and Hertfordshire County guidelines to support us in our management of minimising the risk to our staff, pupils and wider community, all of which will continue to be reviewed on a regular basis; we will update you as soon as possible if any changes are required. We also suggest that you refer to the letter sent on the 21st July with detailed information regarding our September plans.

Proposed Timings of the School Day – September 2020

Class	Gate	Arrival time	Departure time
Nursery	Stanstead Road	Normal Session Times	Normal Session Times
Reception 1 *	Stanstead Road	9:05am	3:20pm
Reception 2*	Stanstead Road	9:15am	3:25pm
Year 1	Constable's Way	9:15am	3:25pm
Year 2	Stanstead Road	8:55am	3:15pm
Year 1/2	Constable's Way	9:05am	3:20pm
Year 3	Constable's Way	8:45am	3:10pm
Year 3/4	Twitchel	9:15am	3:25pm
Year 4	Constable's Way	8:55am	3:15pm
Year 5	Twitchel	8:45am	3:10pm
Year 5/6	Twitchel	9:05am	3:20pm
Year 6	Twitchel	8:50am	3:15pm

*From Monday 7th Sept



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On a positive note, whilst we have been away the school building has been spruced up. Following the building works that happened last year, we had lots of outstanding maintenance that was delayed due to lockdown. We have now been able to ensure this work has been carried out over the summer holidays. The Key Stage 1 classrooms have now had a full revamp; as well as their lovely new toilets; they now have new carpets, new laminate floors and freshly painted walls, woodwork and doors. Our dining room has had a fresh coat of paint and a new floor. The classrooms in the top end of the school required new up to date lighting which has been installed, making these areas much brighter and welcoming for our classes.

The Autumn term is going to be a very strange time for us all, but the staff are working hard together to ensure that they can support their classes in the best way that they can. There will be many differences to the normal way we manage our broad and balanced curriculum at Wheatcroft but quality teaching and learning will be maintained. September is a new way of working for schools and we predict that there will be regular reviews and updates from the Government. These could affect our school in many different ways such as through staffing, potential class or group isolation and the timetabling of days. We will be in touch with you again in the first full week of the term and keep in touch with you as much as we can.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you on Thursday 3rd September.

Yours sincerely
Mrs D Miller
Headteacher