

Wolverhampton City Council

# Castlecroft Primary School

*Headteacher: Mr A Dyall BA Hons*

Windmill Crescent, Castlecroft, Wolverhampton WV3 8HS

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e-mail: [office@castlecroftprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:office@castlecroftprimaryschool.co.uk)

Website: [www.castlecroftprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.castlecroftprimaryschool.co.uk)

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

This is a message to all Parents and Carers of children at Castlecroft Primary School. I hope it finds you safe and well.

The school is currently open to key worker children and vulnerable children only. The government has asked for school to plan to also receive children from Nursery, Reception Year 1 and Year 6 from the 1<sup>st</sup> June. The government will make a final decision on the 28<sup>th</sup> May based on its own research and evidence.

The purpose of this video is to provide information about opening school to more pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> June and to provide some explanation as to how and why the decisions have been made.

The City of Wolverhampton Council has established some principles to enable the safe return to school. Castlecroft is a school that is maintained by the local authority and as such we must listen to and work within their guidance.

These principles include

- The safety of children and staff being the first priority
- Decisions made are based on evidence
- That the opening of school to more pupils needs to be carefully planned and done in stages and not all at once
- That vulnerable pupils remain a priority as do the children of key workers

To prepare for this we have contacted our Key worker parents to establish how many children will be attending school and we are predicting a considerable rise in these numbers. Therefore we are only going to be able to receive year 6 pupils in the first instance **and only to those Year 6 children who had requested a place by the extended Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May deadline.**

We do intend to take children from Nursery, Reception and Year 1 but only when we are sure we have the capacity to safely do so. We will announce a return date for these pupils at a later date.

The reason for Year 6 being prioritised is that the local authority have made the decision that induction to secondary school will begin early. The last day of primary school for these pupils will be Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June and, following a week break, will begin transition activities with their new schools the week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> June. Confirmation



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of this decision was only reported to schools on Tuesday evening. We know that some Year 6 parents and children will be very disappointed that there will not be a period of time in school for all of year 6 and we are too but this is a decision beyond our control. We will therefore do our very best to organise some kind of year 6 farewell and will contact parents in due course.

Here is the plan for the safe return of pupils in year 6 as well as key worker and vulnerable children.

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June will be an INSET day. This is an Authority decision to give the staff the time to prepare the school and to be fully briefed on the systems in place to keep everyone safe. Therefore on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June school will be open to receive its Key worker and vulnerable children who have already registered their place and Year 6 pupils who registered their place by the deadline set. **We cannot accept any pupils who just turn up on the day**
- School will be closed to year 6 pupils on Fridays but will remain open for Key worker vulnerable children. Again this is the suggested model by the local authority to allow for the deep cleaning of school and equipment and to allow teachers the time to plan activities not only for those in school but also for those working at home.
- Breakfast club and After school club will only be available to key worker children and vulnerable children. Places must be booked by parents the week before so we can carefully plan the provision.
- Organisation of the pupils.
  - The local authority advice is to organise children into bubbles or small groups of up to 10 children.
  - Key worker and vulnerable children will be organised into bubbles and year 6 children will be organised into their own bubbles
  - Each bubble will have its own classroom base and a set teaching team assigned to it
  - Children will have their own set of equipment (pencils, pens, crayons, rulers etc) provided for them. **They must not bring in their own equipment.**
  - We will encourage social distancing within the building and particularly with those people outside a child's own bubble. We ask that you talk with your child about what this means.



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- Children in Year 6 will have a table workstation which they will use each day set apart from other workstations.
- However we also understand that for many children and particularly our youngest children this is very difficult to adhere to. Therefore within each bubble children will be able to interact with each other. Children in the bubble will play together, eat lunch together and work together. They will not be able to mix with children from other bubbles thus limiting the number of people they come in contact with to a small number. This is a key part of our strategy to keep the children and staff safe. We hope you understand this.
- The children will be asked to wash their hands as they arrive and we will encourage regular hand washing and good hygiene practices.
- Pick up and drop off
  - We ask that only one parent picks up children or drops them off and we ask that parents adopt a social distance of 2m while waiting for their children
  - To begin with Key worker children will enter school via the office door as normal from 9am but this will change once the children are sorted into bubbles and you will be advised accordingly
  - Year 6 pupils will arrive for 9.15 and will come onto the junior playground and enter school straight away. We ask that they do not arrive early and that they do not play on the playground before entering school
  - At the end of the day Key worker children will leave in the normal way at 3.30pm to begin with but again this will change as they are moved into bubbles. Year 6 pupils will be collected from the junior playground at 3.30pm
  - All children will be allowed to leave earlier than the end of the day if a parent wishes to collect them and this will be via the office.
  - Any child who arrives late will need to enter via the office.
- Lunchtime
  - Children attending school will have the choice of a cooked meal or bringing their own packed lunch.
  - If you normally pay for meals you will be charged in the usual way through Parentpay.



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- Children in Years 3,4,5,and 6 who are eligible for Free School Meals will need to bring a packed lunch as they will have already received a voucher from the government to cover the cost of providing a meal.
- Children will eat their lunch sat with children from their bubble only before going out to play with the same children.
- School Uniform
  - We ask that children come to school in school uniform and that this is regularly laundered to limit transmission of germs
- Children who are unwell
  - If your child is feeling unwell we ask that you do not send them to school.
  - If your child becomes unwell at school we will contact you immediately and request that you arrange for them to be collected as soon as possible. Please make sure that we have your current contact number on file
  - If your child or a member of your family shows symptoms of Covid-19 (a persistent cough, temperature, loss of taste or smell etc) we ask that you contact school immediately to inform us and that you arrange for tests to be carried out and the school be informed of the outcome as soon as you receive it.

I am aware that I have given out a lot of information in this video. If you have any questions or concerns that you wish to raise, school will be open next week from Tuesday and you can call on the office number or email us using the office email address [office@castlecroftprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:office@castlecroftprimaryschool.co.uk)

Many thanks for taking the time to listen to this message and I look forward to seeing you all soon.



Mr A Dyll

Headteacher

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