

Wolverhampton City Council
Castlecroft Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to outline our operating arrangements for next year and to hopefully provide answers to the many questions you may have.

However, before we get to that something much more important.... Football.

Football - It's Coming Home!

It has been 55 Years since England reached the final of a major tournament and understandably there is much excitement amongst the children and staff. If your child is a football fan and will be staying up until after 11pm on Sunday to watch the final then let them stay in bed a bit longer and get to school by 10.30am on Monday. We would rather have the children rested and in school ready to learn rather than absent all day or grumpy.

School will be open from the usual time but children arriving up to 10.30 will not be marked late and they will not miss any lessons. Watching what will be a historical event with your child is a learning opportunity in its own way.

Also on Monday it would be great if we had a 'Red and White' day in school hopefully to celebrate an England win. Children will be able to come in their own clothes on a red and white theme. England football shirts are obviously acceptable but don't worry about going out and buying kits any red or white top is fine. If England lose, please don't let your child turn up in any blue Italian tops otherwise they will be 'coming home.'

Reports

Today you will receive a copy of your child's/children's report. This is in a new format and there is a response slip attached for you and your child to make a comment. Can I apologise for the handwritten name on the envelope but we are unable to print things currently due to an issue with Microsoft.

Government guidance for pupils returning to school in September

It is the government's intention to ease the restrictions currently in place.

Bubble systems are to end, the need to socially distance removed and the wearing of face masks to become discretionary.

This means that school will return to something much more normal and I will try and explain what that means in more detail. School will need to regularly review and update risk assessments and will need to have an 'outbreak management' plan that might include a return to bubbles if there was an outbreak in school or the local community.

The school will continue to operate a number of control measures to limit the risk of infection. These are:

- 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

The government has also asked school leaders to encourage all adults in the community to have both injections. This is the best way of keeping yourself safe and to limit the transmission of the virus.



Operating arrangements for September.

Date of return

- Pupils will return on **Tuesday 7th September**. This is a change from information given out previously. During the Summer the corridors and cloakrooms are being rewired and new lighting installed. We are also having a new fire alarm system installed. This involves sensors being installed in every room in school. We are also looking to have every classroom painted and new carpets laid. As a result, all classrooms and shelves need to be cleared and all class displays taken down by the end of term and then put back before the children arrive. The schedule will be tight with contractors in the building up to the end of the very last week of the holiday. A decision has been made to take 3 INSET days at the start of term. School will open to staff on Thursday 2nd September and this will allow staff the time to prepare school and for essential training to take place.

Arrival time

- School will begin at 8.55 for all pupils. The gate will be open from 8.45 and pupils will walk onto their playground and straight into school. This is a change for how school used to run. Not only do we feel that this provides a calmer start to the day but it also means that parents can drop off more quickly and so ease congestion.
- Nursery can arrive at the same time of 8.45. Parents can walk their children down the path and into the Nursery garden, not across the carpark. Collection at the end of Nursery will be in the same way

Departure time

- School will end at 3.30 for all pupils. Parents will need to collect Reception children from the Reception door, KS1 children from the Infant playground and KS2 children from the Junior playground.

After School Club

- After school club will revert back to operating out of the dining room for all children. Children can be collected from the dining room door.

Lunchtime

- Lunchtime for Yr1 to 6 will no longer be staggered and will run from 12.30 till 1.25. Reception will always go to lunch first a little before this time. A copy of next year's menu will be sent out shortly.

School Uniform

- Following discussions with a few parents a few amendments have been made to the uniform list. An updated uniform list is attached
- We are going to continue to ask children to come to school in PE kit on the days that they have PE. The children will need a tracksuit that is navy blue, or grey or black. **It must be plain and must not be branded.** Not only are plain tracksuits cheaper but they also stop the playground becoming a fashion parade. So far we have turned a blind eye to the large variety of branded tracksuits. Next year these will not be accepted.

I hope I have managed to answer most of your questions around what the new school year will look like. Please be aware that these are provisional arrangements and may need to change if national or local advice changes. I will write to you at the end of August to confirm these arrangements.

Please get in touch if you require any further information.

Mr A Dyll
Headteacher
Castlecroft Primary School