

17<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**Parent Updates**

Dear Parents / Carers,

I'm sure you will agree that the school year is well and truly underway and we are all now adapting to the new systems and routines. I'd like to thank all of you who took the time to complete the parent surveys; they were extremely useful in understanding your views and will really help us as we plan and adapt our procedures.

An overview of the feedback is below:

Parent Survey 10.09.20	Agree or Strongly Agree
My child is happy to be back in school	90%
I feel as though the school has sufficient measures in place to keep <b>children</b> safe.	95%
I feel as though the school has sufficient measures in place to keep <b>parents</b> safe.	92%
I understand the measures and why they have been put in place.	98%
Willow Green have communicated effectively about the reopening of school.	95%
The staff at Willow Green have supported my child with their return to school.	93%
I understand the procedure I need to follow if anyone in my household develops symptoms of <b>COVID-19</b>	92%

Parents also provided many additional comments which have proved very useful. As I have been reviewing our processes this week I have considered this feedback, along with the content of the conversations I have been having with parents, when making changes to our systems.

Key changes:

**Entrance to school**

- There will be no separate entrance for Year 5 and 6 pupils. They can enter through the main gate – many of them are already aware of this and the sign for Y5/Y6 entrance has been removed.
- Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils can walk from the main gate to their teachers in the playground unaccompanied, this will reduce the number of parents having to joining the one-way system around school. (Parents may still accompany their children if they wish to do so)

**Water bottles**

- From next Monday (21.09.20) children will be permitted to bring in their own water bottles. These should be clearly identifiable to the children and should be cleaned daily. They will not be kept in school overnight. We will continue to provide clear plastic water bottles for any children who require them but they will also need to be taken home and cleaned daily.

**PE kits**

- From next Monday (21.09.20) children should come to school in their PE kits **on the days they have PE**. The PE kit policy must be strictly adhered to.

### PE Kits

PE sessions could take place indoors or outside, therefore we advise that pupils have the appropriate PE kits which should include:

- Black PE shorts, white PE Shirt (plain or with academy logo)
- Additional warm outdoor PE wear: plain tracksuit top and bottoms (No football strips or hoods)
- Plain black trainers

### PE Days

Year 1	Tuesday	Year 4	Wednesday
Year 2	Wednesday	Year 5	Monday
Year 3	Monday	Year 6	Friday

Alongside the designated PE lessons, children will also be taking part in activities to promote active and healthy lifestyles across the curriculum, these will include lunchtime clubs, afterschool clubs and extra sessions within their class bubble.

#### After-schools clubs

Children who are attending after-schools clubs should bring their kit with them as usual and do not need to wear their kit for the whole day.

#### Breakfast Club

Understandably some parents have enquired about the Breakfast Club. We are looking at ways in which we can implement this safely and effectively in line with the 'bubble' system of control measures we have in place throughout the school day.

Would any parents who require the breakfast club facility please contact the school office by the end of the day on Monday (21.09.20) by emailing [info@willowgreen.org.uk](mailto:info@willowgreen.org.uk) so that we can gauge interest. When we have an idea of the requirements we will be able to look further into how we can make this work.

#### Snacks

From Monday children will be able to bring in a snack for breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or up to two individual biscuits (not chocolate).

Thank you once again for your patience and co-operation, particularly at pick-up and drop-off times, it is greatly appreciated and is helping to make Willow Green Academy a safe place for all.

As always, we are committed to working with you in the best interests of the children and families of Willow Green and if you have any comments or suggestions please come and speak to me when you see me at the school gates. Alternatively, you can contact us through [info@willowgreen.org.uk](mailto:info@willowgreen.org.uk) .

Many Thanks  
Mr Parkinson  
Head of Academy