

The Willows

Greatbatch Avenue, Penkhull, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 7JY



Primary School

Explore - Dream - Discover

Web: www.willowsprimary.com

Email: office@willowsprimary.com

Tel: (01782) 233280 Fax: (01782) 233282

Head Teacher: Mrs S Thursfield

Deputy Head: Mrs C Beltran

Assistant Head: Mrs A Ball

23rd July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

After the unprecedented circumstances of the last few months, we are very much looking forward to welcoming back all our pupils on Wednesday 2nd September. This will follow the Bank Holiday Monday and an INSET (teacher training) day on Tuesday.

As I am sure you will be aware, the government has set out very clearly that all pupils must return to school in September. Pupils will return wearing full uniform, and will only be allowed to bring specified items into school (see details in our risk assessment overview).

Guidance for full opening of schools:

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

In addition to this guidance, the government also published a guide for parent/carers. What parents and carers need to know:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

They have made this decision because the prevalence of Covid-19 has decreased, the NHS Test and Trace system is operational and our collective understanding of the measures that need to be in place create safer environments in schools has increased.

The government recognises the importance of children and young people attending school – for their educational progress, for their well-being, and for their wider development. We completely agree with this and we welcome the return of your children to The Willows. We understand that there may be some nervousness about your child returning to school and we will do everything we can to allay these concerns by setting out in our risk assessment how we are reducing the risk of transmission of the virus within our school.

It will, of course, be important that we continue to work in close partnership with one another in order to keep The Willows Primary School and its community as safe as possible. We would specifically request that:

- All parents/carers sign the Covid-19 appendix of the home school agreement and return to your child's class teacher via e-mail (e-mail addresses will be shared in the welcome back newsletters);
- If your child or any member of your household shows symptoms of coronavirus then you must not send them into school;



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- We will be engaging fully with the NHS Test and Trace programme. If your child is displaying symptoms of Covid-19 you must:
 - book a test for them
 - provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with
 - ensure they self-isolate. See <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> for more information on this.

At the end of August we will re-visit our risk assessment to ensure that everything we have planned to put in place is relevant for the re-opening of school. If there are any changes I will write to inform of these nearer the time.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and I hope that you are able to have a lovely family break.

Take care.

Mrs Thursfield

