

**WEOBLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
BURTON WOOD  
WEOBLEY  
HEREFORD  
HR4 8ST**



**Telephone: 01544-318273**

**Email: [admin@weobleyprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@weobleyprimary.co.uk)**

**Head of School  
Mr S Warrell BA (Hons), PGCE**

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you all had a good half-term break and I welcome everyone back for another busy half-term. Following the Prime Minister's announcement of a new lockdown I felt it a good time to inform you of the precautions that we are taking in school and identify areas that you can also support us to keep the school community as safe as possible.

Whilst the precautions we take cannot guarantee keeping the school free from COVID-19, it will help ensure the virus is slowed down and any possible outbreak will be contained to a minimum.

So far the children and adults have done an amazing job and feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly positive, however, I welcome feedback on what we are doing – positive or not.

### Bubbles

All classes are their own bubble – classes do not mix with other classes throughout the school day. Classes have their own designated outdoor play area, children eat lunch in the classroom and assemblies are run in the classrooms, with whole class assemblies managed using Microsoft Teams or Facebook Live. Children are not permitted to walk around the school corridors unless supervised by an adult. Despite the Department for Education (DfE) advice that adults can operate in more than one bubble, we have decided to restrict adults to the one class bubble.

### Hand Hygiene

Children are expected to wash hands more regularly than normal – at the start of the day, at break times, before and after eating, after toileting and at the end of the day. Hand washing is either using soap and water or hand gel, where appropriate.

### Catch it, Bin it, Kill it

We promote the NHS Catch it, Bin it, Kill it procedures. Children and adults are expected to use a tissue when they sneeze or cough; the tissue must then be disposed of and hands washed.

### Ventilation

We are ensuring that classrooms are fully ventilated, this becomes more important as the weather gets colder. Windows and internal doors will be kept open to aid ventilation to help reduce transmission possibilities.

### Social Distancing

The DfE acknowledges that social distancing will not be possible for the youngest children and it is not feasible in some schools where space does not allow. From Year 2 upwards, children are sat facing forwards, if this is not the case, screens are in place to ensure children are not directly facing each other. For the younger children we are fortunate that class sizes are smaller, and the children are naturally more spread apart. We will not be able to eliminate social interaction between pupils.

### Face Coverings

There is no expectation from the DfE for teachers and children to wear a face covering in Primary School settings. You are welcome to send your child with a face covering, however, they must be able to safely remove it when required as the misuse of a face covering can lead to the spread of COVID-19 causing more harm than good. Children wearing a face covering should also have a plastic bag to store it in when not in use. Staff are not required to wear a face

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covering in the classroom, although some choose to do so. Staff are expected to wear a face covering when in communal areas indoors.

### Entry and Exit to the building

We have five different entry and exit points to the building to reduce a build-up of families in any one area.

Children should arrive to school between 8.45am and 9.00am

Children should be collected from school between 3.00pm and 3.20pm

Nursery and Reception children to enter and exit through the gate at the rear of the staff car park

Year 1 and Year 2 children to enter and exit through the Nursery door

Year 3 and Year 6 children to enter and exit through the Hall Door

Year 4 and Year 5 children to enter and exit through the KS2 Playground Gate

Office door should be used for children arriving late or needing to be collected during the school day. Other office visits should be kept to a minimum and communication should be via telephone or email whenever possible.

### Attendance

All pupils should continue to attend education settings at all local COVID alert levels unless they are one of the very small number of pupils or students under paediatric or other specialist care and have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend an education setting.

### What can you do to help?

Please ensure children wash their hands before leaving home.

Children should wear regularly laundered clothes (daily fresh clothes if possible).

When dropping children off to school, please do not arrive before 8.45am as we are seeing a build-up of children and parents at this time.

Children should wear warm clothes and ALWAYS have a coat in school – as we are aiming to keep the classes well ventilated – this will at times mean the classrooms are cooler than would normally be desirable.

**DO NOT send your child to school if they OR anyone in your household are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.** The person exhibiting signs should seek a COVID-19 test as a matter of urgency. Please inform us of the situation as soon as possible and keep us updated on the outcome of the test.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

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- When dropping off and picking up your children, please maintain a distance of 2 metres between families
- Only one adult per family should be collecting children from school

Throughout everything we do, we have to consider the children's social and emotional wellbeing – education is as much about children's social and emotional development as it is about their academic development. We have to balance children's happiness with the precautions we take regarding COVID-19. We will take all the precautions highlighted above, but at the same time, we will strike a balance to ensure the impact of COVID-19 does not leave any lasting damage on the children's development.

If there are any changes to current advice, I will be in touch to keep you informed.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Warrell'.

Stephen Warrell

Head of School