

# Wilden V. A. Primary School

A Church of England School



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2nd Sept 2020

## School opening - update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you on the situation regarding the proposed full opening of our school this September. For some children, they will be returning to full-time education after several months and so I hope this letter will alleviate some of your concerns. I would like to thank you all again for your support with home education and working in partnership with the school.

We have updated our risk assessment to incorporate the latest Government guidance and we will be opening the school to all our pupils on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Please inform the office if your family has been abroad in the last two weeks by email. We will still be required to limit the numbers of parents and visitors on site, and only those with essential pre-booked appointments will be allowed to enter the building. Please only visit the office if it is urgent; we want to reduce potential overcrowding at start and finish times.

As mentioned in my last letter in July, children will be in class group bubbles during the day however, some staff will go between these bubbles to provide additional teaching support – it will, of course be kept to a minimum and follows the current government guidance. The staff who go between bubbles will continue to follow the hygiene and health and safety routines. The children will be in their new year groups with their new teacher. We will still be encouraging children to maintain social distancing wherever possible. Within the classroom for example, it is highly likely that we will arrange the tables in rows, so that children will be sitting side-to-side rather than face to face. In order to maintain the emphasis on social distancing, the guidance suggests that schools continue to operate staggered starts and collection times for class bubbles, in order to reduce potential overcrowding at these times. Please see start and end times at the end of the letter. Break and lunchtimes will also be staggered so that there will be smaller numbers on the playground at one time; the children will be told which zone to play in.

I can confirm that we will be providing hot school lunches from next term. Children who are having packed lunches can bring their lunch in a lunchbox; these must be cleaned daily when they return home and handled only by the child at school. As

stated in the previous letter, children will be allowed to bring a bag in September, however, it is important that the equipment is limited to the essentials, e.g. reading book. Before and after school club will go ahead from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Full school uniform including school shoes will be required. On PE days (to be confirmed) children will come to school in their PE kits.

Friday afternoon childcare will still be available free to working parents only. In the first instance you will need to email [office@wildenschool.org.uk](mailto:office@wildenschool.org.uk) with your child's name/s and class/es to request this and to confirm your employer's name, address, telephone and contact email (for both parents if a two-parent household). Once approved, you will receive details about how to book.

Before school and after school club will be available, but for a limited number. The morning session will be from 8am and afternoon sessions until 4.30pm. For this provision, children will be organised in class group tables.

We will have staggered start and finish times and the times are below:

Class	Start time	Entrance and exit	Finish time	Finish time - Friday
Chipmunks	8.45am	Main gate	3.10pm	12.55pm
Hedgehogs	8.45am	Main gate	3.10pm	12.55pm
Squirrels	8.45am	Small side gate	3.10pm	12.55pm
Otters	8.40am	Field gate	3.15pm	1.00pm
Muntjacs	8.35am	Field gate	3.20pm	1.05pm

I would like to thank you for your continued support and patience during this challenging time. The risk assessment and important information will be on the website at the beginning of September. Please rest assured that the safety of our children, staff, parents and the local community is our number one priority. We are doing everything within our power to get the necessary information to you, whilst keeping a very close eye on the local situation. Bedford has recently been identified as an 'area of concern' therefore we need to ensure all measures put in place take this into account.

Kind regards,

Mrs Maria Hutchinson BEd (Hons) MA NPQH

Interim Head teacher