

# Wider Opening Guide



At Westways, we understand that this period of lockdown may have proved difficult for children, staff and parents/carers alike. We acknowledge that some children may find the return to school difficult, particularly as the environment will have changed since they were last here. We will provide opportunities for children to talk through their feelings and concerns regarding COVID-19 and focus on ensuring that their well-being is our prime consideration.

This Wider Opening Guide is designed to help children, staff and parents/carers understand the expectations of returning to school under the current government guidance. We will of course try our best to ensure the smoothest return to school for all our children and staff.

## **School will do its best to...**

- Provide an environment which has been risk assessed in response to the COVID-19 infection and is in line with the 'Sheffield City Council Risk Assessment for School/Childcare Settings'.
- Adhere to the social distancing guidelines as set out by the government as much as we reasonably can.
- Provide a curriculum that meets the needs of the children's well-being, mental health and academic needs.
- Contact parents/carers if a child displays symptoms of COVID-19.
- Inform parents/carers if a member of staff or child in your child's 'bubble' test positive for COVID-19 – this will mean the family will need to self-isolate for at least 14 days.
- Continue our clear and consistent approach to behaviour management for all children as set out in the Behaviour Policy as well the expectations outlined in this guide.
- Communicate with parents/carers regularly through ParentPay, Twitter and the school website.

## **Parents/Carers can support school by knowing and understanding that...**

- If your child or anyone in the same household shows symptoms of COVID-19, you will not send them to school – you will self-isolate for 14 days as a family, get tested and let school know the results as soon as possible via telephone or email.
- If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19 at school, you will collect your child from school immediately. You will get them tested and let the school know the results as soon as possible via telephone or email.
- On your commute, and when dropping your child off and picking them up, you adhere to the social distancing guidelines.
- When dropping off and picking up, you stick to the school timings for your child's 'bubble'.
- Staff will not be able to physically support children when entering school. Therefore any child who is too upset to go into school without support will be asked to go home with their parent/carer and try again the next day.
- School will not admit children into school who appear unwell.
- Your child will not require their PE kit and should not bring any toys or mobile phones with them to school.
- No school reading books or work will be brought home.
- You should not enter school without a pre-arranged appointment, except to speak to the school office in which case you will enter via the main entrance. However, it is preferable that you contact us via telephone or email if at all possible.
- In supporting school in our efforts to create an 'as safe as possible' environment during this time, you will:
  - ♦ Read all letters/messages that are sent via ParentPay;
  - ♦ Inform the school of any changes to parents/carer and emergency contacts details;
  - ♦ Follow social distancing guidelines;
  - ♦ Collect your child if their behaviour puts others at risk - they will not be able to return to school until they can adhere to the systems put in place.

## **Children can help us in school by trying their best to...**

- Follow the 'bubble' rules that keep them safe, for example:
  - ♦ Keeping within their 'bubble';
  - ♦ Keeping a safe distance from other children and staff;
  - ♦ Looking after their equipment pack and resources.
- Wash their hands as soon as they go into school and regularly wash their hands using soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Tell an adult if they feel unwell.
- Not bring any toys or mobile phones with them to school, or to take any school reading books or work home.
- Only use the equipment in their pack.
- Move around school (including entering and exiting the school building) in a safe way as directed by staff.
- Follow the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' rules, coughing and sneezing into their elbow or a tissue.
- Follow the rules to maintain the safety of themselves and others.