

## Settling into school

Well, it has been a wonderful week at Woodside! It has been brilliant to see so many happy faces-children, staff and parents alike! We are delighted to have everyone back at school and it is lovely to welcome new children and families too.

Please refrain from contacting your child's teacher via the class email address now, as those email accounts are for remote learning support and so will not be regularly checked. For any urgent messages or to arrange a phone appointment with your teacher, please revert to phoning the school.

## Red Nose Day

On Fri March 19th, we will mark Red Nose Day with a mad hair or hat day and encourage children to wear something red. So, start thinking of how to use hair gel and spray creatively or decorate a cap/hat in a crazy way! There are some fabulous ideas online –just google 'mad hair day ideas' or look on pinterest. Lots of ideas could be adapted onto hats or wigs! Donations of £1-£2 per child suggested, which can be done via Parent Pay.

## Breakfast and after school club

Please contact the office if you want to book child care at breakfast club or after school club.

## National restrictions

We are very lucky to be able to return to some sort of normality at school and know that you are appreciative of this too. It is essential that all of us continue to abide by the Hands, Face, Space rules at drop off and collection times. It is essential that all abide by the national restrictions regarding households, to minimise the risk of further partial closures. You will be aware that play dates after school are not allowed. The National restrictions are clear that mixing of households indoors is not allowed, except where a childcare bubble has been formed to enable parents to work. You should not make arrangements for your child to be picked up by a friend, unless this is a sustained, formal childcare bubble arrangement and we have been informed. Thank you for your co-operation as this helps other families to feel supported and safe on the full opening of school.

## Key stage 1 and key stage 2 statutory tests and teacher assessments

In January, the Department for Education (DfE) announced that primary statutory assessments could not continue as intended in 2021. The statutory key stage 1 and key stage 2 tests and teacher assessments planned for summer 2021 are cancelled.

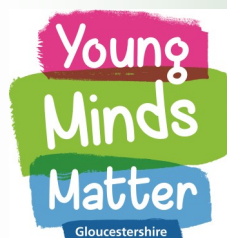
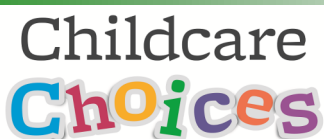
This includes:

- year 1 phonics screening check
- year 4 multiplication tables check
- key stage 1 teacher assessments
- key stage 2 tests in reading and mathematics
- key stage 2 teacher assessment of writing

There will be no new tests published for key stage 1 or key stage 2 this year.

DfE has further confirmed that in 2021, the early years foundation stage (EYFS) profile is not mandatory and that practitioners should use their best endeavours to complete it and provide the information to year 1 teachers and parents.

Please be assured that we will continue to assess children carefully and the information will be used internally to ensure children progress as they move through the school. Assessment information for Y6 children will be transferred to their secondary schools and we will ensure that good transition takes place for those children moving on in July.



### **Remember:**

- Please practice social distancing whilst at school, wear a face covering, remain very vigilant for symptoms.
- Please ring with queries to avoid using the reception entrance.
- Please do not send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:
  - 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.

### **Drop off and collection**

It is the same as before Christmas-the poster has been sent on ourschools app and is on our website under 'Letters and Covid-19 information'.

Please arrive at your allotted time and help to keep bubbles separate as we want to avoid any partial closures!

If you have more than one child, all siblings can arrive together at the later slot. Little Dormice and Dormice combine as one bubble, due to smaller numbers.

### **Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college (from DfE):**

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus.

Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test and do not need to wear masks (even if 11 years of age).

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

**The nearest collection point is Hempstead Meadows (site of Gloucester Car Boot and Flea Market), Gloucester, GL2 5LE. It is open daily 1:30pm to 7pm.**

A new community-testing site to serve people without Covid-19 symptoms in the Forest of Dean has opened at Cinderford's Miners Welfare Hall. They offer Lateral Flow Devices to help identify the virus in the community.