

Wivelsfield Policy Re Covid-19 (Draft 4) – 1st September 2020

This is deliberately referred to as Draft 4 because it updates three previous drafts.

1. All children who are on role at Wivelsfield Primary School in Years 1-6 should return to school, full time, as from Monday 7th September 2020. It is a legal requirement to do so and fines for failing to ensure attendance, will once again be possible. The following is contained within the government's latest guidance to all primary schools:

“The prevalence of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased, our NHS Test and Trace system is up and running and we are clear about the measures that need to be in place to create safer environments within schools.

Returning to school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing. Time out of school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development, particularly for disadvantaged children. This impact can affect both current levels of learning and children's future ability to learn therefore we need to ensure all pupils can return to school sooner rather than later.

The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from coronavirus (COVID-19) is very low and there are negative health impacts of being out of school. We know that school is a vital point of contact for public health and safeguarding services that are critical to the wellbeing of children and families.”

2. Any child who has been abroad during August, to a country on the government's quarantine list, is required to isolate for 14 days before returning to school. The parent of any such child should notify the school accordingly.
3. A full and objective risk assessment was carried out specific to Wivelsfield Primary School in the spring term. That risk assessment enabled the school to open to Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and greater numbers of priority children (children of key workers and those assessed as vulnerable) from the 1st June 2020. That risk assessment has been robustly reconsidered by the school's senior leadership team (SLT). The SLT and the Governors are in agreement, that Wivelsfield School will implement the government's advice, to ensure the safety of all stakeholders of the school, thereby allowing our children to resume their school careers with as much normality as possible.

MINIMISING RISKS

4. Any child or member of staff with any Covid-19 symptom will not be permitted entry to the school. Any such person would be expected to obtain a negative Covid-19 test, or self-isolate for 14 days, before being permitted to return to school. Wivelsfield School will retain the discretion, based on a reasonable judgement, to refuse to allow a pupil to return to school until the school is satisfied that a full 14 days of self-isolation has concluded.
5. Any individual who develops symptoms during a school day will be sent home as swiftly as possible. Any child who develops Covid-19 symptoms during the school day will be isolated from classmates and a parent notified forthwith. Any staff member looking after a child with such symptoms will wear appropriate PPE and follow all government advice regarding such circumstances – *Safe Working in Education, Childcare and Children’s Social Care Settings, including the use of personal protective equipment guidance*.
6. All children and staff members will wash their hands routinely and frequently during the school day.
7. The school will encourage children with coughs and colds to practice “catch it, bin it, kill it” in a single use tissue. The bins will be emptied regularly.
8. Additional cleaning will take place throughout the school day.
9. The school will actively work with the authorities responsible for the NHS Track and Trace system. Wivelsfield School will only share the names and details of people with Covid-19 in circumstances where it is essential to do so, in order to protect other people.
10. Wivelsfield School will work closely with the local health protection team if a child or member of staff is confirmed as having Covid-19. The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment and the school will adopt and implement, all measures identified by the local health protection team, as being necessary to help prevent the spread of this virus and to keep all stakeholders as safe as possible. This will include identifying all children and staff who would be required to self-isolate for 14 days.

COUGHS AND COLDS

11. The main symptoms of Covid-19 are a new continuous cough, a high temperature and a loss or change in the sense of smell and taste. A continuous cough is “coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours”

12. If the school believes a child has a “*continuous cough*” their parents/guardian will be contacted and asked to collect the child forthwith. That child should then be tested for Covid-19 and/or self-isolate for 14 days prior to their return to school.
13. If a cough could be classed as “*continuous*” but may be an aspect of a routine cold, that child’s temperature will be taken. If their temperature is above 38*, they too will be expected to leave school and to undertake a test/self-isolate, prior to returning to school.
14. The decision of the SLT shall be final as regards the requirement to remove a child from school. If a child is required by the school to self-isolate, suitable work will be provided whilst the child remains at home.

THE SCHOOL DAY

15. The following bullet points provide guidance to all parents and children about arrangements in school as of September. Some matters are different to what might be considered a ‘normal, pre Covid-19 day’ and some arise, because of changes made during the last spring and summer terms, as the school adapted to Covid-19.
 - Children will no longer have their temperature checked before being admitted to school.
 - The car park will be closed at 8.30 and 2.30pm each day to enable parents to wait safely, socially distanced, using the whole car park area.
 - Except for parents of Reception children, there will be no admittance to school premises beyond the car park each end of the day (except a maximum of 2 people at any time in the main foyer).
 - There will be a staggered start and end to each day.
 - Children will be kept in class bubbles for most of the day.
 - Each bubble will have the use of their own toilet facilities.
 - At lunch and break times children will be allowed to mix in larger bubbles outside: Owls and Badgers; Otters and Foxes; Rabbits and Hedgehogs. Robins may be able to join Rabbits and Hedgehogs later in the term.
 - Staff can move between bubbles, but this will be kept to a minimum.
 - Parent volunteers will be welcome.
 - Whilst we will not expect children to maintain social distancing, we will encourage them not to touch staff and friends.
 - KS1 will be able to have ‘carpet time’ in class, as usual. Children in Year 2 and above will sit in rows facing forwards. Reception and Year One will have alternative seating arrangements, in line with government guidance.

- Children will be able to take reading books home.
- Children do not need to wear face masks in school.
- There will **not** be a one-way system around the school, but the number of children using the corridor or toilets at any one time will be regulated and carefully monitored.
- Children will be washing hands regularly throughout the day.
- There will be no whole school assemblies, until government guidance changes.
- School meals will be offered and can be ordered in the usual way.
- Fruit will be available for KS1 for their mid-morning snack.
- Break times and lunch times will be staggered where possible.
- Some classes may eat their lunch in the classroom.
- There will be additional cleaning of toilets and hard surfaces in the middle of each day.
- Some extra-curricular clubs will be offered from 21st September. A wider range of clubs will be offered from Term 2 onwards.
- Any offsite visits in Term 1 will be within walking distance of the school.
- There will be no interschool tournaments until guidance changes.
- Peripatetic teachers will continue to offer music lessons. Social distancing will be observed and shared instruments will be cleaned between lessons. No wind or brass instruments shall be shared.
- Any parent entering the school reception should wear a face covering.
- Parents will be encouraged to remain two metres apart at either end of the school day.

WRAP-AROUND CARE AT SCHOOL

16. Larks Breakfast Club and Kingfishers After School Club will open as usual from Monday 7th September. Children will **not** be able to be kept in their class bubbles for these clubs and all parents have been made aware of these arrangements, prior to any bookings being taken.
17. Larks Breakfast Club will use the Nest and the Reading Den, as well as outdoors. Breakfast will be served in two sittings and The Reading Den will be used for activities for children not in the Nest. There will be an adult in each room.
18. Kingfisher Club will be based outdoors as much as possible in Term 1, as well as in the Reading Den. The Nest will also be used as needed along with the hall when available.

LOCAL AUTHORITY PROVISION OF TRANSPORT

19. The 167 bus service between Worlds End and Wivelsfield Primary School will for the following services, be for the exclusive use of pupils attending the school.

8-20am	Worlds End to Wivelsfield School
15-22	Wivelsfield School to Worlds End

UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT INTO SCHOOL

20. Children should wear their school uniform in the normal way. The requirement for it to be washed every day no longer applies.
21. Children can bring bags to school but this should be restrained to either their book bag (essential in KS1) or a very compact backpack.
22. Each child will be supplied with their own set of stationery to be kept in their school drawer. Children can bring in their own pencil case if they wish but once it is in school, it must remain in school.
23. On the days when a child will have a PE lesson children should come to school in PE kit. Parents will be told when PE lessons will take place during the first week of term. On cooler days, children may like to wear tracksuit bottoms (preferably black) over their shorts in addition to their school cardigans or fleeces. If boots with studs are needed, other footwear should be worn to school.
24. On days when children have Forest School, they should come to school in suitable clothes for this and bring their Wellington Boots in a plastic bag.

CURRICULUM

25. All teachers will teach their usual broad and ambitious curriculum.
26. In September 2020, all staff will work to ensure that all children settle back into school, especially for those who have not been able to attend since March. There will be additional time set aside for work to support children who remain anxious or worried following lockdown.
27. In the first few weeks, members of staff will use a range of assessments to find out which children may need additional support to help them catch up with any gaps in learning as a result of not being able to attend school.
28. PE lessons will be outside whenever possible.
29. The school will organise remote learning for any child who is absent with Covid-19 symptoms, awaiting test results or self-isolation.
30. Should the school become an area of localised lockdown, the teachers will endeavour to provide online learning as has been commonplace since March 2020.

GOVERNORS

31. Governors will continue to undertake most duties remotely. Where this is not possible and physical attendance is necessary, a face covering shall be worn at all times whilst inside the school building.
32. Governors meetings shall continue via Microsoft Teams until further notice.