



Friday 28 August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you to confirm further details regarding the start of term. We are really looking forward to meeting you and your child as they get ready to start their Warden House adventure!

[Stay and Play Sessions and Teacher Appointments:](#)

If you have not already done so, please contact the office once school has reopened on Tuesday 1st September to book times for both our Stay and Play sessions and teacher appointments the following week.

Please be advised that we will have a range of Covid precautions in place during these sessions. Thank you in advance for your support in adhering to these.

- i. All adults and children must sanitise their hands upon arrival at the school office.**
- ii. All visiting adults should wear face coverings whilst inside the school building.**
- iii. All adults should respect social distancing during the sessions and should keep a 2 metre distance away from others at all times.**
- iv. We will ensure that all shared resources are cleaned between sessions.**

[Bubbles](#)

In line with government guidance, we have chosen to operate 'year group bubbles' at Warden House as we begin the new school year. This will allow us to offer the full educational experience to your child while limiting their contact with other year groups in the school.

Over the past few months, many children may have missed out on learning opportunities they experience at nursery as well as social interaction with friends and family for a significant period. When they start school, they will need high-quality, play-based experiences with opportunities to organise their own learning, choose their own resources and collaborate with their peers and adults.

There will be times during the school day where children will have the opportunity to work across both classes with others in their year group only. This will be during free flow play and child-initiated learning which are a key part of the Early Years framework and the curriculum we offer at Warden House. These practices allow children to move independently within the Early Years setting, choosing to play indoors and outdoors.



We have a fantastic space for our Foxes and Rabbits and can offer the children many learning opportunities and enable them to fully embrace the use of the whole environment.

To ensure the children can learn in this way safely, we have a rigorous cleaning and hygiene programme set up which runs from Reception through to year 6.

Additional Protective Measures

A range of additional protective measures will be in place across the school. These include:

- Increased hand washing and hand sanitising for all pupils, staff and visitors
- A rigorous and highly cautious approach to managing any illness that takes place during the school day for all members of our school community.
- Teachers have received additional guidance on how to organise their classrooms to minimise the risk of transmission
- We have employed a full-time cleaner who will work across the school each day following a detailed checklist to ensure our school site is as clean and safe as possible.
- There will be no large gatherings such as assemblies.
- We will operate two separate lunchtime sittings to limit numbers.
- Breaktimes will be staggered and children will not be allowed to mix with others in other bubbles.
- Limits placed on the number of visitors coming on site
- We have purchased additional play equipment that will not be shared between bubbles.
- There will also be specific limitations placed on certain lessons such as music and PE where there is a heightened risk of viral transmission.
- There will be full engagement with the government test and trace system.

Start and end of the school day

Given that we have nearly 450 pupils at Warden House, the start and end of the day is normally a very busy time where social distancing would be nearly impossible if everyone turned up at the same time. In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, we will be running staggered starts and end of days.

From **Monday 14th September** when your child starts attending mornings only, we will begin admitting pupils from 8:40 am in the morning using the structure overleaf.



Pupils with surname starting with the letter:	Arrival time:	Collection time:
A-H	8:40	12:20
I-P	8:50	12:30
Q-Z	9:00	12:40

From **Monday 21st September** when your child starts attending full time, the following arrival and collection times will be as follows:

Pupils with surname starting with the letter:	Arrival time:	Collection time:
A-H	8:40	2:50
I-P	8:50	3:00
Q-Z	9:00	3:10

I am sure that you will understand the reasons why we need to do this in order to keep people apart as much as possible. We ask that only one adult per family comes on site to collect children and that a distance of 2 metres is maintained from others at all times. Please limit interaction with others and ensure that children leave the site as soon as collected. They should not stay and play with others or use school equipment.

To further ensure social distancing is maintained, we have had to make a few changes to the start of the school day for our Reception children and parents will **not** be able to enter the classrooms at arrival times. We fully appreciate that the first day of school can leave some children feeling a little anxious and walking into their new classroom for the first time is a big step. However, we have a fantastic Early Years team at Warden House who will be on hand to support your child with this transition. Staff will be at the gate ready to welcome children into the setting and walk them to their classroom door where there will be lots of fun activities set up for them.

The Stay and Play sessions will be valuable in supporting your child with this transition as they will be able to familiarise themselves with where they will arrive, say goodbye to Mum or Dad and walk to their classroom door. If you have any concerns about your child's first day, please discuss these with Miss Lund or Miss Hodges during either the Stay and Play or at your teacher appointment.



London Road Entrance to School:

From the start of term, we will be partially reopening the London Road entrance to the school along with the main entrance on Birdwood Avenue. We will operate a one-way system here in order to keep everyone apart as much as possible. At the start of day, parents and children will be able to enter the school from the London Road entrance, however, parents must leave via the Birdwood Avenue gates. Please note that there is no parking for parents at the London Road entrance and this entrance is for those travelling on foot only.

We will reverse this at the end of the day with parents entering the site from Birdwood Avenue and being able to leave via London Road once they have collected their children. We will be maintaining our one-way system around the school grounds and ask all parents and carers to follow this at all times.

Mr Pearce will be manning the Road Crossing Patrol on London Road which will be operating at the start and end of day.

Jungle Club (Breakfast and Afterschool Club)

The government's latest guidance states that breakfast and afterschool clubs will be able to run as usual. Please contact our Jungle Club leader Ms Harvey should you wish to sign your child up (wendy.harvey@warden-house.kent.sch.uk). Alternatively, please contact the school office.

Please note that breakfast club and after school club will be based in the school hall next term with the entrance via hall door on the KS2 playground. There will be specific precautions in place during these sessions – including asking children to sit in Year Group bubbles and only mix with children within these groups.

We look forward to meeting you in the next week or so.

Yours faithfully

Mr Rob Hackett
Headteacher