

ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 2020

Broadening Horizons

1st September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very excited to be finally welcoming everyone back to the academy on Thursday 3rd September. I hope that you have had an opportunity to rest and recuperate and we are looking forward to catching up with you. My last letter to you was dated the 17th July 2020 and it contains more detailed information about our return. This is still available on the academy website and can be accessed at this [link](#).

Although the academy was opened throughout the summer term, there were fewer children attending. We are expecting a full complement to arrive on Thursday so please be patient and bear with us as we do our absolute best to ensure that your children enter the academy safely so that they can have a fabulous day. I absolutely appreciate that some of you will have some worries so I am hoping that the families who attended during the summer term can offer some reassurances and support other parents/carers with entry and exit procedures.

The academy is fully risk assessed and we are following DfE guidelines. The protective measures that we have in place stringently follow those outlined by the government. One of the most important measures is that if your child or someone in your household has signs and symptoms of the virus, please do not come to the academy. Anyone showing signs or symptoms will be isolated in a ventilated room under supervision and will need to be collected as soon as possible. In accordance with guidelines, we will not be taking children's temperatures.

Everyone at the academy is required to wash their hands on entering the classroom and frequently throughout the day, especially before eating and after visiting the toilet. There may be other times when hand sanitizer is used e.g. during PE sessions. Soap is readily available in classrooms and toilets, and hand sanitizers have been installed throughout the academy, both inside and outside.

Everyone will be required to use a tissue when they cough or sneeze, bin it and then wash their hands thoroughly. Tissues are available in all classrooms.

Measures have been put in place to ensure that frequently touched surfaces are cleaned during the day and desks will be cleaned before and after children eat their lunch.

Children will be in four groups: reception, key stage 1, lower key stage 2 and upper key stage 2. Children will sit facing the front of classrooms in key stage 2, but there is a more flexible approach in reception and key stage 1 with L shaped spacing. Timetabling of halls, assemblies, academy start and finish times, breaks and lunchtimes has been organized so that groups have reduced contact.

Guidance has recently changed for staff with regard to the wearing of masks. However, the government is clear that children under the age of 11 are not required to wear masks in schools. Staff will not wear masks in the

classroom but may wear them in communal areas. If you do decide that your child should wear a mask to school, it will need to be removed before entering the premises following the guidance:

'Pupils and students must be instructed not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing them. They must wash their hands immediately on arrival (as is the case for all pupils and students), dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.'

On arriving at the academy, there will be a one-way system for parents/carers to drop off reception and key stage one children. There will be plenty of staff there to guide you until we all get used to the procedures. Please ensure that only one parent/carer comes onto the academy premises and ensure that you keep 2 metres apart.

We are asking that parents/carers of key stage two children do not come into the academy to drop off or pick up your children. Children will be collected and dropped off at the gates by a teacher. If you miss your designated drop off/pick off time, then you will have to telephone the academy office – **please do not enter the building**. When a member of staff is free they will come and collect your child. Please note that as staff will be in classrooms, this may take some time so please be patient.

Below is a reminder of the new start and finish times:

Group	Accompanied by a parent/carer onto academy premises	Arrive Slot	Pick up Slot
Reception	Yes	0900-0910 red gate entrance	3.20pm red gate area and white door
Y1/2	Yes	0850-0900 small hall and white double doors	3.10pm small hall entrances and white doors
Y3/4	No – children collected/dropped off at the main gate	0900-0910 class fire exits	3.30pm main gate
Y5/6	No – children collected/dropped off at the main gate	0850-0900hrs class fire exit/Y6 cloak room	3.20pm main gate

If you require any further information, please read the following guidance:

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#)

Scooters and Bikes in the Academy Grounds

May I remind everyone that bikes and scooters are **not** to be ridden in the academy grounds at any time. Children and toddlers are expected to alight at the school gate and walk their bike or scooter into school. At the end of the day, they should walk their bike or scooter to the front gate before riding. Only one child/family should enter the bike shed at a time.

Term dates

Please see the term dates for 2020-21 and 2021-22 on our [academy website](#).

Staffing News

There are some important updates with regard to staff this term. Firstly, we would all like to congratulate Mrs McGeachie who begins her adoption leave in mid-September. In her absence, Mrs Newboul, our Assistant

Headteacher for KS2, will be taking on the SENDCo role and Mr Daniel Brown has been employed as the class teacher for year 4. Mr Brown has worked in a number of schools and has written a letter of introduction to his new class. Mr David Tierney joins the Y3/4 team as class teacher in Y3/4. Mr Tierney is covering for Mrs Nicholls until she returns from maternity leave and Miss Jessica Pavier is joining the key stage 1 team as class teacher in Y1/2. We also have two trainee teachers this year: Miss Emmy Holland who will be working alongside Miss Kilby in Y5/6 and Miss Nicole Lynch, who will be working with Miss Hall in Reception.

In addition, we are delighted that a number of new support staff will be joining the team. Mr Kyle Everett and Mrs Sharron Brackenbury join our lunchtime supervisor team, and Mrs Leigha Wood, Mrs Zoe Clarke and Mrs Etta Foulston join our teaching assistant team. A very warm welcome to all our new staff.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back and it will be joyous to see our classrooms filled with the buzz and excitement of children learning again. There will be lots of staff around in the first few weeks to meet and greet so if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. If you think your child will be unsure or feel anxious, feel free to wait around until things quieten down. For our new reception parents/carers, you and your children will have as much time as you need – the team have got this covered.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Thursday!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs F Kent
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs F Kent BSc (Hons) QTS NPQH

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Waddington Redwood Primary Academy is part of The Priory Federation of Academies Trust



