

ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 2021

Broadening Horizons

2nd September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I sincerely hope that you have all had an opportunity to enjoy time with your children over the summer break and the excitement is mounting as we prepare to welcome everyone back to the academy on Monday 6th September.

As Covid-19 becomes a virus that we have to live with, there is an imperative from the government to reduce further disruption to children's education. Attendance is mandatory for all of our children and this newsletter will highlight some of the main messages from the current government guidelines. You can read the full guidance by clicking on the link, '[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#)' and read our academy's updated [risk assessment](#).

If you suspect your child has coronavirus or has a positive test

DO NOT send your child to school if:

- they are showing one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- they have had a positive test result
- there are other reasons requiring them to stay at home, for example, they are [required to quarantine](#)

Tracing and self-isolation

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should self-isolate by following the '[Stay at home guidance](#)' and arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

Schools are not expected to undertake contact tracing should there be a positive test in the school community. This will be undertaken by NHS Test & Trace.

Mixing and 'bubbles'

It is no longer necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). As well as enabling flexibility in curriculum delivery, this means that whole school assemblies and hot school lunches can resume. If circumstances change, then we are prepared to respond appropriately.

Face covering

Face coverings are no longer advised for children, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. However, some staff and families may continue with this practice and this is perfectly acceptable. If there is a local outbreak then this may be reviewed.

Asymptomatic testing

Staff are advised to undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until the end of September, when this will be reviewed. There is still no directive on testing or vaccinations for children in primary schools.

Control measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19

1. We will ensure good hygiene for everyone
 - Hand hygiene- Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is now regular practice. We will continue to ensure that children clean their hands regularly, using soap and water or hand sanitiser.
 - Respiratory hygiene – Children will continue to be taught the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach.
2. We will continue to maintain appropriate cleaning regimes
 - We will maintain an appropriate cleaning schedule, which includes regular cleaning of areas and equipment, with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.
3. We will keep occupied spaces well ventilated
 - We will balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature for children and staff.
 - CO2 monitors have been promised to all state-funded education settings from September, so staff can quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved. We await further information on this.
4. We will follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.
 - When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test, child, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of passing on COVID-19.
 - If anyone develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, we will send them home and families should follow public health advice.
 - If a child is awaiting collection, he/she will be escorted to and supervised in a room that has fresh air ventilation. Supervising staff will wear appropriate PPE in line with academy protocols. We ask that you collect your child as soon as possible.

Routines and Timetable

Below is a reminder of our timetable.

Year Group	Arrive Slot	Pick up Slot
Reception	9.00am red gate entrance	3.15pm red gate area
Y1/2	8.50am small hall and white double doors	3.10pm small hall entrances and white doors
Y3/4	8.50am year group entrances	3.20pm main gate
Y5/6	8.50am year group entrance/Y6 cloak room	3.20pm main gate

On arriving at the academy, we will maintain the one-way system for parents/carers to drop off reception and key stage one children. Staff will be there to guide you. Please ensure that that you keep 2 metres apart.

We are continuing to ask that parents/carers of key stage two children do not come into the academy to drop off or pick up children. Children will be collected and dropped off at the gates by a teacher.

We also ask that children come into the school building independently. There will be plenty of staff to support. Last year, we were really pleased with how quickly your children arranged their own belonging and settled at the beginning of the day. Teachers managed to get registers completed and morning tasks started right away and we would like this to continue in the future. If you need to visit the academy office, then please enter one family at a time. The above are precautionary measures that will help to reduce the transmission of the virus for our staff.

Mental health and wellbeing

Some children may be experiencing feelings of anxiety, stress or low mood as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Support for children and parents

Encourage your child to talk to you or their teacher if they are feeling anxious or stressed.

Online resources to help you support your child with mental health and wellbeing, include:

- [MindEd](#) - a free educational resource on children and young people's mental health
- [Every Mind Matters](#) - an online tool and email journey to support everyone in taking action to look after their mental health and wellbeing
- [Bereavement UK](#) and the [Childhood Bereavement Network](#) - information and resources to support bereaved pupils, schools and staff
- the [DfE blog](#) - includes [mental health resources](#) for children, parents, carers and school staff

Public Health England's (PHE) [advice and guidance for parents and professionals on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing](#) includes actions you can take to support your child and emphasises the importance of taking 60 minutes of daily physical activity. Youth Sport Trust and [Sport England](#) have advice and support on helping children and young people stay physically active.

NHS mental health services remain open and have digital tools to connect with people and provide ongoing support. Please use your local children and young people's mental health service when needed.

Support for Online Safety

Internet Matters have put together a briefing for parents/carers on staying safe online. Please find it here: [How to deal with social media issues kids face online | Internet Matters](#)

Educational visits

I am delighted to announce that our Y6 Residential Trip for this academic year has been provisionally booked for [Hilltop Outdoor Centre](#) in Sheringham for **Wednesday 23rd March 2022 to Friday 25th March 2022**. We will be writing to you shortly with more details of how to secure your place with a deposit.

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 2021-22 and 2022-23 on our [academy website](#). This should help you to plan your family breaks and activities during academy holiday periods.

School Admissions 2022 – Waddington Redwood Primary Academy

If you have a child whose date of birth is between **1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018**, you will need to register your child for school for **September 2022**. In the meantime, we are finalising this year's prospectus so please give us call on 01522 721156 so that we can introduce ourselves and you can find out more about us.

Please remember that all applications for school places are made online and you can apply between **15 November 2021 - 12 noon on the 15 January 2022**. See <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school-place> for further information, or contact the admission team at schooladmissions@lincolnshire.gov.uk or 01522 782030.

School Admissions 2022 – Secondary Schools

If your child is in Year 6 and due to go to secondary school in **September 2022**, please apply online; further information is available at <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school-place>. You can apply between **8 September 2021 to 31 October 2021**. If you need any support with your application please contact the academy office, alternatively you can contact school admissions via e-mail at schooladmissions@lincolnshire.gov.uk or call 01522 782030.

Staffing News

At the end of the summer term, we were very busy recruiting new support staff for the academy. A very warm welcome to Mr Kyle Everitt, who joins our reception team as an apprentice teaching assistant. Mr Everitt also works as a midday supervisor and is a parent at our academy. I would also like to welcome two new teaching assistants to our Redwood family, Mr Samuel Colley and Mrs Louise Holcroft. Both Mr Colley and Mrs Holcroft will be working in years 5 and 6. In addition, I would like to welcome back a former pupil, Miss Ellie Thorpe, who joins our administration team and will be studying for a business administration apprenticeship. Finally, I would like to welcome our two trainee teachers, Miss Gemma Amos and Miss Katie Gilman-Abel. Miss Amos will be working with Miss Daubney and Miss Gilman-Abel will be working with Mrs Nicholls.

In addition to new staff, there have also been some changes to our learning support team to reflect the increase in demand for this service. Supporting Mrs McGeachie as SENDCO will be Mrs Green as Pastoral and Safeguarding Officer and Mrs Buckley as SENDCO and Inclusion Officer. Mrs Green will work on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Mrs Buckley will work Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and Mrs McGeachie will continue to work on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

We look forward to meeting everyone on Monday.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs F Kent
Co Headteacher



Headteacher: Mrs F Kent BSc (Hons) QTS NPQH

Waddington Redwood Primary Academy Redwood Drive Brant Road Waddington Lincoln LN5 9BN

Tel: 01522 721156 **Email:** enquiries@redwood.lincs.sch.uk www.redwood.lincs.sch.uk

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

