

Letter to parents from the Headteacher 2 September 2020



Woolmore
Primary School

Dear Families,

Information on returning to school

We are looking forward to welcoming all our children back next week for the start of the new school year.

This letter is to give you further information on our safe reopening in line with government guidance and our Risk Assessment Plan which is available on the website.

When does my child return to school?	
Monday 7 th September	These classes return today, they are at home tomorrow and back in school on Wednesday: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupils in Upper KS2 on the top floor: Y5 and Y6:• Y6 Yew tree and Y6 Willow tree• Y5 Sycamore tree, Y5 Sequoia tree and Y5 Rowan tree• Pupils in KS1 on the first floor: Y1 and Y2:• Y2 Magnolia tree, Y2 Maple tree and Y2 Juniper tree• Y1 Fig tree, Y1 Banyan tree and Y1 Holly tree
Tuesday 8 th September	These classes return today and continue tomorrow: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupils in Lower KS2 on the second floor: Y3 and Y4:• Y4 Plane tree, Y4 Pine tree and Y4 Poplar tree• Y3 Oak tree, Y3 Olive tree and Y3 Mulberry tree• Reception pupils on the ground floor:• Rec. Orange tree, Rec. Lime tree and Rec. Lemon tree• <i>Please note that 'Monday's pupils' will be at home today</i>
Wednesday 9 th September	All pupils (except nursery) in school

Are there different start and finish times?

Yes! As we will be working in class and year group 'bubbles' timings are staggered:

Y1, Y3, Y5 **start: 8.50-9.00am** **finish: 3.05pm**
Rec, Y2, Y4, Y6 **start: 9.00-9.10am** **finish: 3.15pm**

How do I drop my child off and collect them?

- **We have a one-way system:** the main gate is '**Way in**' and the early years gate is '**Way Out**'. Parents will be able to drop their child in the parent section of the playground. This will also be the collection point for most children (see below).
- **Year 6** will enter school via the door by the school office and walk up the yellow stairs.
- This will be the same in the afternoon **except for year 5 and Year 6** who will be collected from the far gate at the end of the MUGA.
- We appreciate parents keeping to the above times although we know there will be overlap for some families
- We ask that only one parent/carer collects as space will be at a premium and we are asking for social distancing in the playground and outside the school gates.

Is it back to school uniform? And PE kits?

- Yes, we expect all children to now be wearing school uniform please.
- To help with getting active children will be doing some exercise each day. They do not need full PE kit for this but a clean t-shirt to change into would be helpful.
- We ask that children either wear trainers to school or bring them to change into for PE sessions.
- There is no swimming until further notice.

How do I know that school is safe? What has changed?

- All staff have worked very hard to ensure that our processes, procedures and our building are robust and safe for children and adults in accordance with government guidelines and our Tower Hamlets and school Risk assessment and Plan.
- We will all be sanitising and washing our hands regularly throughout the day.

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- We ask all adults (including parents) to socially distance 2 metres where possible.

Do we have to come back to school? What if my child is unwell?

- You will be aware that the government is expecting all children to return to school.
- If you are feeling concerned about coming back to school we will work with you to reassure you and support your child's return.
- Should your child be unwell please, as usual, call the school office to let us know.

What can my child bring to school?

- A water bottle with their name on (we have spares if you don't have one)
- Their book bag/rucksack

What about breakfast club? After school clubs? Child-care provision?

- We need to spend the first couple of weeks getting the new Covid-safe systems in place so we will not be starting our breakfast club provision until a bit later in the term.
- After the first two weeks we intend to offer some places for paid-for after-school childcare from 3.15-4.45. If this suits you and you would like to sign up please call the school office.
- There are no after school clubs this half term and we will review the situation.

What about lunches and playtimes?

- To ensure we remain safely in year group bubbles, we have a different organisation at lunchtimes: there will be a rota of eating in classrooms/the hall and hot/cold food options. Children will be served by staff so as to minimise movement at this time. In the playground we have zones for year groups at different times. Our lunch break is now 45 minutes long.

What else?

- All our plans will be appropriately staffed and we will be monitoring how things are working. Where things need to be adapted we will make the necessary changes.
- Please read the accompanying information sheet for families which repeats some of the above information and offers additional bits. It also has some very helpful graphics to help us all remember the new ways of doing things.

I hope this is clear for everyone, but please do call the office if you have any questions or concerns. The Admin and Family teams are here to help you.

Finally I want to express my respect and appreciation for everything it must have taken for you and your families to stay safe, support home learning and care for each other during the challenges of the pandemic. Although we are still in these times, I cannot tell you how much I am looking forward to our Woolmore community reconnecting and the opportunity to, once again, teach all our amazing children in school!

Kind regards,

Ms Argent
Headteacher

- The latest information for parents and carers from the DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>
- School phone number: 020 7987 2778
- School website: www.woolmore.towerhamlets.sch.uk
- Twitter: Woolmore School@WoolmoreTweets

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