



'working and growing together'

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Headteacher: Mr Paul Quarry

26th February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope that you enjoyed a welcome and well deserved break from home learning during the holidays for those of you who have needed to adapt to the new way of working and I am sure that many of you welcomed the Government announcement that schools will welcome back all pupils on Monday 8th March. We have been working through the guidance since the announcement on Monday to ensure any changes are implemented but we are confident that most of the procedures and measures that we had in place during the Autumn Term, which we have kept in place for those attending during this current lockdown, can remain. This should mean that the return to school for your children on Monday 8th March is a much less daunting one than it was in September. In September, the school the children returned to was very different to that they left in March last year. When they return in March, the school they will re-enter will be very similar to that they left in December. We believe this will help their transition back into school greatly.

Having said this, we are well aware that we will, again, need to prioritise the mental health and wellbeing of the children following such a lengthy period away from school and plans are in place to address this. We also know that the other great challenge will be quickly finding out the gaps in learning that may have developed during the period of 'school closure' carefully planning how we can help your children 'catch up' with any lost learning. Please be reassured that we will prioritise these areas to ensure that your children settle back into school quickly and they are helped to get back on track as quickly as possible.

In preparation for the return to school on March 8th, for those children who have not been attending, it would be a good idea to begin to help them re-adjust to the routine they will need to follow when attending again. Bedtime routines, getting up and dressed and having breakfast by the time they need to in order to attend school, would all be good preparation for the return. Whilst we know many children have been maintaining these routines when attending and engaging with the online learning, we are also aware that some children may have been going to bed later, getting up later and may have lost sight of this routine. The return to school will be more difficult if this is not addressed prior to Monday 8th March. As always, if you require any support or guidance from us to help prepare for this, please contact us and make us aware. We will do all we can to help.

BREAKFAST AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

With this newsletter (and below), you should have received a link to a survey. The survey is regarding clubs. We know that some families have been affected greatly by our inability to offer clubs before and after school – particularly many of our critical workers. As we ran a successful trial of these clubs following our successful Covid-19 Health and Safety Inspection, before Christmas, we are confident that we can safely offer this provision again when we re-open to all on March 8th. We are hoping to be able to offer, subject to demand, the following:

Breakfast Club from 7:15am until the start of the school day – **from Monday 8th March**

Afterschool Wraparound Club from the end of the school day until 4:30pm – **from Monday 8th March**

A limited number of **other after school clubs** run by teachers or sports coaches from the end of the school day until 4:15pm
– **after the Easter holidays**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE CLUBS, PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY
IF YOU HAVE NOT NEED / INTEREST IN THESE CLUBS, PLEASE DO NOT COMPLETE THE SURVEY

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KWIBDfrzw0WF-TIBI23JhevMcwC4fldNomlRnPnXvZRURE9QMUQ4QTU1N0tPME4wOUFaQ1XVFa3OC4u>



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KICKSTART JOBS

As part of the Government's Kickstart Jobs scheme, we are pleased to be able to offer the following posts in school for anyone who is aged between 16 and 24 and in receipt of Universal Credit. The post we have available are:

Administration Assistant x 1
Premises Assistant x 1
Play Worker x 2

The closing date for applications is Friday 5th March.

To find out if you are eligible, you can follow the link below, or look on our website or Twitter feed:

kickstartwestyorkshire.org/ipmat

WORLD BOOK DAY – Thursday March 4th

Thursday 4th March is World Book Day. In school, we will be marking the occasion by doing lots of activities based around reading and children's books. We understand that many children, and staff, enjoy dressing up as a favourite book character on this day. However, we are also mindful that the expectation of sorting costumes and outfits for children, along with the financial implication that can come with this, does sometimes add an unnecessary pressure. Therefore, rather than asking children to come dressed up as a character or something similar we will have a non-uniform day on Thursday 4th March.

This means that anyone wanting to dress up, is able to but other children and families do not feel that there is an expectation to do so. Instead, children can come in their favourite clothing or clothing of their choice. We want World Book Day to be about reading and the pleasure we can all gain from reading, not necessarily just about what someone is wearing. We hope this approach allows for a fun day, with reading books at the heart of it, without adding any unwanted stress.

SAFEGUARDING

Please be aware of how long children spend on devices during the holidays and monitor their use.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/need-help>

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/primary/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/>

ICON

Unfortunately, Wakefield has experienced recent baby deaths here in the district as a result of overlay, unsafe sleeping and shaken babies. The ICON program can help to prevent this with the support it provides:

I – Infant crying is normal;
C – Comforting methods can help;
O – It's OK to walk away;
N – Never, ever shake a baby

[Wakefield safeguarding children partnership \(wakefieldscp.org.uk\)](https://wakefieldscp.org.uk) – info for staff and parents, including the safer sleeping standard information.

[The Lullaby Trust - Safer sleep for babies, Support for families](#) – info for staff and parents.



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Other useful links:

<https://parentinfo.org> - resources and guidance for parents on a wealth of subjects
<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/> - guidance about popular apps, games and networks children may be accessing
<https://www.starwakefield.org.uk/> - resources and support to help deal with bereavement
<https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/> - resources to help with mental health and wellbeing
<https://youngminds.org.uk/> - Young Minds
<https://wf-i-can.co.uk/> - Online resources for children and young people in Wakefield with mental health and wellbeing
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> - NSPCC
<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/> - website for safer sleep for babies
www.iconcope.org – website offering support around normal infant crying and how to cope / manage this

Useful Numbers

YOUNG MINDS PARENTS HELPLINE: 0808 8025544
CHILD LINE - Help for adults concerned about a child call us on 0808 800 5000
CHILD LINE - Help for children and young people call Childline on 0800 1111
NHS - For urgent medical help – use the NHS 111 online service, or call 111 if you're unable to get help online.
NHS - For life-threatening emergencies – call 999 for an ambulance.
POLICE – 101 for non-emergencies or 999 in an emergency
REFUGE – Call 0808 2000 247 for support from the National Domestic Abuse Helpline
NORMANTON FOOD BANK - 01924 895634 or 07307 189851

We all hope that you have a good weekend,

Paul Quarry
(Headteacher)



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COVID19 Symptoms At Home Flow Chart

