



Wouldham All Saints Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher : *Mr Carl Fitter B-Ed(Hons) NPQH*

Welcome back to a new school year! We all hope you have had an enjoyable summer break and everyone is well and ready for learning action!

We are being optimistic about the return to 'normal' activity and this means the new term should look much more like the school used to before the pandemic.

Thank you to everyone for being so wonderful over the past eighteen months – you have responded to the challenges and upsets so well and your resilience and flexibility alongside messages of support and encouragement have helped us work through the difficulties we have had to face.

If we had to list the things we have missed we would need a long document to fit it all in. Although we can't be sure of what is around the corner we are hoping that we will be back to normal and able to see much more of everybody together.

All years, apart from our new Year R, return to school on Monday 6th September. We will be returning to our pre-covid arrangements which means everyone needs to enter school through the large double gates along the side of the school. For those children in Years 1, 2 & 3 these gates are accessed from the main entrance on Worrall Drive – it is not the same place you have been entering since March 2020!

All children will need to say goodbye to parents before entering the gates – nobody will be allowed around onto the playground. We have a number of staff members to safely see the children around to their classes without getting lost en-route!

The pedestrian gate at the front of school is open for those coming from Worrall Drive and the layby gate will also be open for those coming from Hall Road. Parents are free to walk up and down from the layby but please remember that the use of the layby is just for dropping off – you can't park up and leave the car whilst you deliver your child to the gate. We are intending to station a member of staff at the lay-by gate who will be able to offer further directions as needed.

The gate will be opened at 8:50am and closed at 9. Anyone arriving before this can wait patiently at the gate but will not be supervised. Arrivals after 9am will need to enter through the main entrance.

We have lots of exciting learning planned in all classes and the team are eager to welcome you back. We have uploaded additional information about what each year

group will be doing on the school website. The page can be found by clicking the link below.

[Wouldham All Saints CEP | Learning](#)

Make sure you click on your child's **new** year group rather than the last one!

The school day will return to normal finish time of 3:15pm for everyone. Parents can collect from the main playground and will need to enter through the side gates and walk around the edge of the school. The gates will be opened for entry at 3:10pm. Dogs will not be allowed beyond the entrance gate so please leave them at home. Once on the playground, please form a queue at your child's collection point – we will try to make this as clear as possible for you as we appreciate it has been a long time since any of you have been able to come so far into the school!

The most important bit of information you need is your child's new class name. Teachers will then hand children over to you as you reach the front of the queue.

Please, please, please try to avoid bringing your car onto Worrall Drive. We will now have all year groups arriving and leaving at the same time and all entering and leaving through the same point. The more people walking to school the better! Stella and her lollipop will be in action at both ends of the school day and is looking forward to helping you cross the road at the Medway Inn safely and is especially looking forward to seeing your beaming smiles!

We encourage independence for older children and so if you would rather your child leaves their class and makes their way to you on their own (maybe down at the layby or at the main entrance) then this is fine. You need to complete our 'webform' to enable this – without it we will keep your child until you turn up for them! The form can be found on the link below...

[Wouldham All Saints CEP | Independent Travel Home](#)

The layby in hall road will not be open to cars at the end of the day. It isn't possible to escort children to be handed over to parents there in the same way that we have been doing during Covid restrictions. The pedestrian gate will be open and parents can enter and leave that way making it much easier than before.

This is the biggest change in operational status since March 2020! Many of you have never experienced this system before. It will take some getting used to again so please be patient. We may need to make some tweaks in organisation once we have seen how successfully we return to previous routines!

The school day will hopefully look very much like they used to – with playtimes and school worship. Everyone will be able to eat their lunch in the hall. It will take a bit of getting used to for everyone. But we are looking forward to it!

School activities such as swimming and Forest School will also begin. We will send more details about this as and when it applies to your children.

School Uniform – Everyone always looks so smart at the start of the year. Full uniform should be worn and especially school shoes not trainers or shoes that look like trainers! If you have ordered uniform but not collected it yet we will send to your child's classroom to come home with them next week.

From years of experience, we know that the usual pattern is for children to have new clothing, especially jumpers and cardigans, the weather heats up again and the new items get taken off and left out all around school. Lots of lovely new items get mixed up and then it turns out that there are no labels or markings to identify who it belongs to!

Whatever age your child is – please ensure the clothing is clearly and securely marked and that your child knows where to find the label!

Medication – children requiring medication in school, such as inhalers, will need to be sent in to be kept close at hand. Please contact the school to detail any change in medical issues.

Mobile phones – although there is no need for a phone in school we appreciate that if you are wanting your child to leave school independently that it may be a good idea to equip your child with one. If this is the case then we need you to complete the mobile phone consent form on our website. The link is below.

[Wouldham All Saints CEP | Mobile Phone Parental consent form](#)

Personal details – If there have been any changes to address, name, contact numbers etc then please make sure you have contacted the school office. It is ok to visit the office in person but please wear a mask when in the building.

There will be further updates and information coming out to you but in the meantime we look forward to seeing your children on Monday and to seeing much more of you all than has been possible for what seems like ages!

Have a very enjoyable weekend.