



Woodhouse Primary Academy

Woodhouse Road
Quinton
Birmingham
West Midlands
B32 2DL

Head Teacher: Oliver Wilson

Tel: (0121) 464 1769

Email: enquiries@woodhouse.uwmat.co.uk

Website: www.woodhouse.priacademy.co.uk

Wednesday 9th September 2020

RE: Update on progress since our full return to school, September 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

I would like to offer my profound thanks and appreciation to all of our families for the superb way in which you have returned to our school. Your positive attitude, patience and understanding about the changes we have had to put in place to ensure the safety of children, adults and their families is very much appreciated. Our committed staff team are, as always, giving their all to the children – ensuring that they make a positive start to the new year. Your role in that successful start is crucial – so please communicate with us if we can help you or your child in any way.

New school email addresses

Please note that our school email address has changed slightly. Email addresses no longer end as they did, all of them have the domain **@woodhouse.uwmat.co.uk** at the end of them. You can now contact school on **enquiries@woodhouse.uwmat.co.uk**

Please update us with any changes of details you may have. You can also pass on messages to staff at the start or end of the day. Any emails sent to older email addresses will still go the correct member of staff, as we have access to all old email addresses too.

Coronavirus Update – 9th September 2020

In light of the situation in some neighbouring schools, I thought I would remind you of key information about coronavirus and also our measures of control to limit the possible spread of the virus in our school community. The main way we can keep safe is to be aware of the symptoms of Coronavirus. The government makes clear that “Children can get coronavirus (COVID-19), but they seem to get it less often than adults and it’s usually less serious.”

Symptoms of coronavirus in children

The main symptoms of coronavirus in children are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What to do if your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

- **Do not send them to school. If they are in school, you will be asked to collect them urgently.**
- Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
- Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test.
- Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.



University of Wolverhampton Multi Academy Trust,
Room WA109, Jerome K Jerome Building, Walsall Campus, Gorway Road, Walsall, WS1 3BD
Companies House: 08255492

If in doubt, seek assistance. Call NHS 111 to speak to a medical professional. You can see the details, including how to book a test for someone showing symptoms here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

Organisation of Woodhouse to reduce risk of infection:

We have worked hard to do everything possible to limit the risk of infection in our school.

- A staggered start and end to the school day, to limit any crossing of bubbles and to reduce contacts between children and adults. Thank you for being prompt (neither early or late) for your collection slot. This is improving each day and your patience is very much appreciated.
- Once in school, all Children are kept in their class bubbles, with consistent indoor learning spaces for each bubble. This means that children from different classes do not mix together in school, at break, lunch or in Before and After School club. Staff who move between bubbles for educational reasons do so as infrequently as possible, and keep socially distant wherever possible.
- As they are in consistent classes and dedicated learning spaces, both classroom and break out/intervention rooms, we do not need children to be socially distancing when inside their class bubble. Teachers and support staff are keeping socially distant when this is possible.
- Children and staff generally do not wear masks in school. Masks are worn when supporting children with first aid, intimate care or when a child displays symptoms.
- We continue with our significantly heightened cleaning regime. 3 staff work all throughout the day, regularly cleaning all classrooms, toilets, touch points (including door handles) and emptying all bins. They are also on hand to respond to any urgent cleaning need in classes.
- Where children show any symptoms of CV19, they (and their siblings) should not attend school.
- If any of the symptoms of coronavirus are evident in school, the child will be isolated from the class and parents called to collect them and their siblings (regardless of symptoms for those siblings or not) urgently. They will need to be tested for CV19 and follow the appropriate isolation guidelines for them and their family.
- If a child does undergo a test, then they cannot return to school until they and their family/support bubble have spent 14 days in isolation.
- Please inform school when a family member has taken a test and whenever you receive a coronavirus test result. The school office will speak to you each day so that we know the outcome of any tests in our school community.
- If a test is negative, the family/support bubble will no longer need to isolate. Children can return to school when well enough to do so, but they should be free of symptoms so that they do not pass these symptoms on to others.
- In the event of a positive test in school, we will follow advice from Public Health England in responding to limit the spread further. I will inform the school community if there is a positive test. If I have not done so, then this means there are no confirmed cases in our school. Children going home with symptoms alone does not require further action than that described above. This may include sending some other children from the class bubble to self-isolate, or even closing the whole class bubble for a period of time. Further guidance will be given if this is the case. This is a precaution and not an indication of wider infection.
- It is very unlikely that our whole school would be asked to close, unless this was the safest course of action recommended by Public Health England.

Woodhouse Coronavirus Q&A

The following Q&A will hopefully support families to understand how to react in different situations. If in doubt, just ask and we will do everything we can to help and assist you.

Q. My child is feeling unwell, with one of the coronavirus symptoms, what should I do?

A. They and all the family should self-isolate. Arrange to have the child tested and await the result. Follow the government guidance as above. Do not attend school. Call school to let us know.



Q. School call me to collect my child as they are showing coronavirus symptoms, what do I need to do?

A. Urgently have the child and any siblings collected from school. Follow the guidance above, including arranging a test for anyone showing symptoms. Inform school when you have arranged a test, when a symptomatic person has taken a test and as soon as you receive the result of any test – including of other family members.

Q. What do I do if I cannot arrange a test straight away?

A. You will be aware of the challenges in the testing system at the moment. Keep trying to arrange a test. We are fortunate that there is a new Coronavirus testing centre locally at Woodgate Valley. Until you can confirm a child has a negative test for coronavirus, the family should self-isolate for 14 days. The sooner you can arrange a test, the more likely it will be to end the self-isolation for the family.

Q. School call me to collect my child as they are unwell, but they are not showing any symptoms of coronavirus. What happens then?

A. If a child is not showing symptoms, then they do not need a test and can be collected and/or returned to school when they are well enough to do so. You do not need to do anything different from how we would act pre-coronavirus.

Q. What happens if a child of mine at another school is sent home from school for a period due to a confirmed coronavirus case in their bubble/school?

A. Unless the sibling is also showing symptoms, or you have been informed to do so by NHS Track and Trace or their school - in which case you will respond as above - then your other child should still attend Woodhouse.

Q. My child has had symptoms, undertaken a test, which has come back as negative, but still has a cough. Should they return to school straight away?

A. To limit the spread of illnesses which show coronavirus symptoms, requiring self-isolation and testing, we are asking families to ensure that children are better before returning to school. This is particularly important with a cough or similar.

Q. How will school support the children who have to self-isolate with their learning?

A. If a child is unwell, we do not expect them to undertake work at home whilst they are ill. Where a child is suitably recovered but still has to remain at home due to self-isolation, we will support the children and families with work. This will include live teaching using the Oak National Academy: <https://www.thenational.academy/> as well as work on google classroom wherever possible. Where internet access or use of a device is a problem, we can support with paper work as we did throughout lockdown. Further details will be shared with you if your child is not in school. Once well and back in school, we will work hard to help the children catch up with any lost learning

Thank you again for your continued support with the challenges faced by all schools. I know that together we will do everything we can to ensure that our school community is as safe as possible. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to ask. Remember that you can also make comments or queries on our September Google Form: <https://forms.gle/ZYt8Huz2DKiczNvD8> which is checked regularly. If you need immediate guidance, just contact school. Please stay safe and take care.

Yours sincerely,



Oliver Wilson
Head Teacher
Woodhouse Primary Academy

