



Gorse Covert Primary School
 Gorse Covert Road
 Birchwood WA3 6TS
 Headteacher: Mrs C Cooke



Returning to School

Dear Parents

Please find below further information about your child returning to school on Monday 13th July. Your child has been placed in a bubble with other children in their year group and is in either A, B or C. You will receive a text to say which bubble your child is in.

The group that your child is in will indicate what time to arrive and collect (see below). You must adhere to these times or your child may be refused entry. The purpose of the staggered times is to enable social distancing and keep everyone safe. We have tried to align siblings but this has not always been possible.

Bubble A	Bubble B	Bubble C
8.45-2.45	9-3	9.15-3.15

Drop off/collection

- Children can be brought to school through one of the gates (near pre-school or bike shed) and they should line up on one of the yellow markings. There is one line for Y4 near the trim trail and one for Y2 that goes from near the Media suite to the tyre park. A staff member will assist you with which line to use. Please do not arrive more than 5 minutes early to avoid cross-over of groups.
- No more than 1 adult should be with your child. If you are able to, please leave any other children at home.
- Parents should maintain social distancing.
- Any messages to staff should be emailed to office@gorsecovertsch.co.uk or telephone the school office. The staff member on the gate will not be able to take messages because they will be supervising children.
- Older children should maintain social distancing if coming to school independently.
- If possible, avoid travel on public transport.
- Children arriving late may be refused entry.
- If your child refuses to leave you, staff will be unable to support you in the way they have done previously. You are likely to have to take them home.
- When collecting from school you will go to the same lines on the school playground. You will need to stand in line according to a number which will be given to you e.g 3 is position no. 3 in the line. The children will come out with their teacher in the same order which will speed up collection.
- Parents and children must leave the premises immediately. The play areas are not in use.
- The waiting area for childminders (if collecting children from different bubbles) will be at the large bench near the trim trail. Please let us know as soon as possible which childminder will be collecting your child. Their start and finish time may have to be altered if the childminder is collecting children from different bubbles.

What should they wear/bring?

- Children do not have to wear school uniform.
- They should wear appropriate clothes for physical activity. Do not send in PE kits.
- Clothes should be clean/fresh each day as it is possible for the virus to be carried on fabrics.
- They should wear appropriate shoes that they can do up themselves. Please do not send in young children with laces or buckles unless they can do them up themselves.
- They can bring in a snack (something they can open by themselves). Each child will have their own pair of scissors to open packets independently.
- They **must** bring in a water bottle. The water fountains will not be available.
- There is likely to be more outdoor learning so please ensure they are wearing long lasting sun tan lotion and have had any necessary hayfever medication.
- Y5 children can bring in a reading book and their own pencil case.
- They will need to keep their personal belongings with them so please do not send in big bags or unnecessary items.
- They can bring in their own sanitizer and hand cream if they wish.

School lunches

- Infant children will be provided with a lunch but you can provide your own if you wish.
- Junior children can order a lunch which will need to be paid for via ParentPay (unless entitled to free school meals). Alternatively they can bring their own packed lunch.
- Monday, Wednesday and Thursday there will be choice of sandwiches.
- Tuesday is sausage roll or sandwich.
- On Friday there will be hot meal available which will be chips with chicken or fish fingers.

Coronavirus symptoms

- Please do **not** send in your child with any symptoms that are similar to coronavirus symptoms, even if you don't think they have coronavirus. They will be isolated from their bubble and sent home immediately if we suspect coronavirus.
- If children are complaining of feeling unwell please keep them at home rather than seeing how they go in school. If you really feel there is nothing wrong with them, communicate that with the school before they arrive.
- Any new continuous cough, fever or loss of smell/taste are symptoms and will require your child to be tested.
- If anyone in your family has suspected coronavirus, the whole family should be isolating for 14 days.

Communication

- Please let us know by 9.30am if your child is going to be absent with the reason why they are absent. It is expected that children attend each day for the full week.
- All parent communication must go through the school office via telephone or email at office@gorsecoverts.ch.co.uk
- The email address is monitored throughout the day by Mrs Burgess who will pass on any messages to the staff concerned.
- Teachers will still aim to communicate with you through google classroom but please bear in mind that they will be teaching all day and will not be able to communicate with you during the school day.

How can we best help each other?

- We want to keep your child, your family and our staff all as safe as possible. The best way to do that is to maintain a reasonable distance and have excellent hygiene practices.

- Please do let us know before your child starts back to school if there is anything we should be aware of e.g a bereavement or parent separation.
- Talk to your child about the importance of maintaining a distance between their friends and their teacher. We appreciate this is more difficult for the younger children.
- Show them how to wash their hands properly.
- Ensure they know how to blow their nose and how to 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.
- Please see the attached home/school agreement. For this to be a successful return to school for all concerned, it is important that staff, parents and children comply with the agreement. Please keep this document to hand and regularly remind your family about this important information.

Childcare

- Unfortunately Wasps Link Club are unable to operate at the moment due to the need to keep children in bubbles. School is also unable to offer any childcare as staff have been asked to leave the premises by 3.45pm to enable thorough cleaning to take place.
- There will be no before or after school clubs.
- There are childminders operating in the area. If you are struggling for childcare we may be able to provide some names to contact.

This is all new to us too and I'm sure we all have our anxieties. There may be things we need to adapt along the way for the benefit of everybody. I therefore ask for your patience while we get things right. Please do let me know if you have any questions about the above procedures.

We look forward to seeing your children on Monday.

Yours sincerely

C Cooke
Headteacher