



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



### **School Update**

Dear Parents

It has been lovely seeing so many of our Y6 children in school this week. They will be finishing tomorrow and we will be very sad to see them leave us but wish them all the best for their next exciting adventures.

We are also very excited to be inviting some of our Y3 and Y5 children back in school next week and Y2 and Y4 for the final week.

### **September Plans**

The government has now released guidance for the Autumn term, which is pretty much as we thought it would be. Schools must now plan for the **full return of all pupils** in September whilst trying to minimise contacts as much as possible. I will now work with staff and other headteachers to ensure our plans are as safe and robust as possible. It is likely that we will continue to have some staggered starts and finishes and classes/departments will continue to be in bubble (albeit a larger one) to reduce the amount of contact with other children and adults as much as possible. Education in September will be compulsory and it is expected that **all** children will attend. You will be sent a text in the next few days to let you know which class your child will be in when they return in September. Considerable effort has been made to ensure your child is with the friend(s) you requested. Further information about start times etc will be given to you as soon as they are available.

If you would like to see the full guidance, please use this link. [Guidance for schools](#)

### **School Meals**

At present we are just serving packed lunches but we hope to have hot meals available when we return. We will need to ensure lunch times are staggered to ensure there are smaller numbers of children in the hall at any one time. Parents of children in Y2 are reminded that if you want your child to have a school dinner from September, you will need to pay £2.40 per day using ParentPay. If you are in receipt of universal credit, your child may be entitled to free school meals so please contact the school office.

### **School reports**

If your child is in school on Thursday 9th July, they will receive their school report as a paper copy. All other reports will be emailed by Friday 10th July. Please note that the judgements have been based on what the teacher felt they were likely to achieve prior to the lockdown. Assessments will take place when we return in September to enable teachers to assess any gaps in their learning from this period of not attending school.

### **School uniform**

We will be expecting children to wear uniform again in September so if you need any new items from school, please email any orders to [office@gorsecovertscho.co.uk](mailto:office@gorsecovertscho.co.uk) You should be able to pay for items on ParentPay.

### **Home learning**

We fully appreciate that many of you have found home learning very challenging, especially if you have been working from home yourself. During this time we have found what works well and what has been more difficult. Whilst it is impossible to find a solution that suits everyone, should we be in a position to need to do remote learning again, we will endeavour to utilise the lessons learnt from this experience. There are many children who have done huge amounts of home learning during this time through either Google Classroom or things you have provided yourself. I would like to thank those parents who have spent money on resources and found alternative 'real-life' learning opportunities for your children. I am sure they have benefited greatly.

Google Classroom and other online technologies will continue to be used by teachers for homework. Prior to lockdown we were already sourcing ways of providing online learning so this has been a good opportunity to try things out. High schools already do much of their homework online so these new technologies are here to stay. I would therefore urge you to consider ensuring your child has access to some sort of electronic device. We have moved over to chromebooks at school which are much cheaper (around £200) and the children should be able to use them quite easily. Some electronic tablets can be purchased for around £100. Perhaps consider one for a Christmas gift if they do not already have one? For those entitled to free school meals who really don't think they can afford a device, please contact us because we may be able to help.

### **End of term**

I hope to see many of you at some point during the last two weeks in school but if not, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support over this academic year. I hope you manage to enjoy the summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September.

If you have any questions, please ring the school office or contact us on [office@gorsecovertscho.co.uk](mailto:office@gorsecovertscho.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

C Cooke  
Headteacher