

Dear Parents

Firstly, I would like to thank you for supporting the school so well as we re-start education. The school has opened to all pupils in a phased fashion and all children have responded very well to the detailed changes to school routines. These changes have been outlined in the re-start document and are now being amended as we seek to further refine practical issues. We as a staff team greatly appreciate the exceptional way that you have prepared the children and presented them for school. Be assured we never take this for granted!

We extend a warm welcome to our new Nursery children and our Primary One fresh starts. We trust they will be very happy in school!

Waringstown Primary School has traditionally very high standards of behaviour with good discipline, which the school actively promotes in our children. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the essential role which they play in fostering self-discipline and respect for authority. Children from an early age must be taught to listen carefully and respond positively to an instruction from a parent or a teacher. Responsibility for discipline rests with the parent, the teacher and the pupil collectively.

Each Key Stage will distribute a copy of our school rules drawn from the school's Positive Behaviour Policy. Please encourage your child to read these and help them to understand these rules as they are factors for effective learning and development.



### Social Distancing

It is essential that drop off and collection points are socially distanced. We are aware that the staggered arrival and dismissal times enable the school pedestrian gate area to be less congested but please be ever vigilant and socially distance. The very last thing we want is an outbreak!

### Stranger Danger

All of our children receive information and specific rules about never going into cars / houses of strangers. We also teach children to follow the 3 W's:  
Never go anywhere unless your parents know:

- 1 **W**here you are going,
- 2 **W**ho you are going with and
- 3 **W**hen you will be back.

Parents are reminded to enforce this teaching at home and remember that no Primary School aged child should be left at home or unsupervised at any time as it places them at risk.

Please ensure that your child knows the safe routines for walking home. It is vital that he / she knows who is collecting them from school. As we have several collection points it is **simply impossible for the staff to know** where your child should be ie at the Windsor Hill pedestrian gate or the Main Street collection point. It is very helpful if you have one 'steady' collection routine in place for the children in Primary 1 – 3 in particular, as this helps to form safe home time procedures. It can be very distressing for a young child to be waiting in what turns out to be the wrong place!

### SeeSaw

With the full return to school routines and a demanding working pattern, the SeeSaw messaging option will cease to be active from Friday 28 August. As with every other school year SeeSaw will resume its normal classroom purpose, whereby pupils / teachers will occasionally send and display work covered in class.

**Parental messaging via announcements will be switched off on Friday 28 August.**

## **2.00pm Home time** (Staggered collection times in operation)

The 2.00pm home time is always a cause for concern.

It is most helpful if **your child knows where you will be** for collection time. Try and stand in the same place every day. It is very stressful for children and staff if you are collecting children from various points or gates. In order to help safeguard the children, several Classroom Assistants will be on duty in pink fluorescent waistcoats. Mrs A Parker will, as usual, be on duty at the Windsor Hill pedestrian gate. Staff will be on duty at the main school home path. Please note that in line with Education Authority guidelines staff may not step over our gate to 'manage' collections.



It is important that children should return to Classroom Assistants or Teaching Staff should they be unable to find you at home time. You will also be able to spot the assistants easily and find your child due to the fluorescent pink waistcoats.

## **Dogs in the school grounds**

Please note that dogs, however small, should not be in the school grounds as some children are unsettled by their presence. A local school did have a **serious incident** involving a dog and a child last year and we do not wish this to occur in Waringstown Primary School. A number of parents have sought clarification on this point. Thank you for your co-operation. This is a Health & Safety Notice on behalf of the school. We would also ask that you DO NOT allow children from outside your family to pet or stroke your dog!

## **Nursery / Windsor Hill / Windsor Lodge School Gate**

This gate will open at 8.40am and NOT before.

Please be aware that the above is purely a pedestrian gate for residents of Windsor Hill. For the health and safety of our children and all concerned we respectfully request that you do not 'drop off' or collect children via this gate. Only children living in the Windsor Hill development may walk to school and walk home via this gate. It is vital that we maintain excellent relationships with the residents of Windsor Hill and your co-operation in this matter is deeply appreciated. Please note, as this is a pedestrian gate there will not be a patrol person on duty. However, a member of staff is present at the gate at 2.00pm and 3.00pm within the school grounds.

## **The School Driveway and Staff Car Park**

Parents are respectfully reminded that access via the main school driveway is restricted to staff only. NB There is NO DROP OFF facility within the school grounds or avenue! Nursery parents are reminded that they MUST park on the Main Street and walk up to collect their child / ren.

Children should under no circumstances walk up the driveway even with a parent. Children should not be 'dropped off' in the school grounds unless arriving late perhaps as a result of a Dental / Medical appointment. Parents may park in the Visitors Car Park and escort their child directly to the Office... NOT the classroom.

## **Eduspot**

The Eduspot system is in operation and meals (which take the form of Packed Lunches initially) should be ordered **over the weekend**.

## **School meals**

A school dinner costs £2.60 / day or £13.00 / week.

Primary One children will stay for Dinner / Lunch from Tuesday 01 October onwards. P1's also stay in school to 2.00pm from this date onwards.

**Each month's menu is posted on the school website.**



## **Free School Meals (Assistance Forms)**

Application Forms for assistance with Free School Meals and School Uniform are now available from the Education Authority website. Only parents in receipt of Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit, Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance or Child Tax Credit are eligible to apply. It is very important to note that ALL PREVIOUS ENTITLEMENTS to free school meals expired on 30 June 2020.

**No entitlements carry over to this school year.  
Please re-apply!**

## **The Mall doors and school access**

To safeguard the children our buzzer system is in operation outside the main porches. You can press the red button to gain entry to the school. We respectfully request that any parent visiting school to collect a child should **report to the Office immediately**.

We shall then arrange for your child to come and meet you in the central mall. When you leave the school via the main mall doors please ensure that you securely push the outer door behind you so that it is tightly fastened to the magnetic lock system.



**Children may not buzz visitors and parents into the school!**

## **The Fruit Stop (Primary 3 – 7)**

The Fruit Stop which was a Primary 7 micro-business has ceased to trade this academic year.

## **NUT FREE & KIWI FREE POLICY**

Once again we have a number of children in Nursery and main school who suffer from a severe allergy to all nuts and or kiwi. Children with this condition may have a severe reaction, which can prove **VERY SERIOUS** if they come into contact with nuts or kiwi fruit. Consequently, we request that **NO PEANUTS** or **RELATED PRODUCTS** are brought into school for your child's break or packed lunch. **Pesto or Pesto Pasta Salad is strictly off limits too!**

It is also our school policy that as many foods contain traces of nuts we do not permit children to swap or share food at Break or Lunch.

## **Grapes in school**

We had two serious choking incidents in school two years ago and the Education Authority released sensible advice that, particularly for young children, grapes should be quartered. Please ensure that grapes at Break and Lunch are cut if they are being sent in to school. So many parents have carried this advice into their food preparation routines at home. Thank you for your co-operation as we seek to safeguard ALL of our children.



## **Asthma Register**

The school Asthma Register is being refreshed. Therefore, we ask that once again you complete the pro-forma enclosed in this newsletter. Please complete the asthma register form even if you have already done so on previous years.

## **Bees & Wasps**

Please complete the enclosed pro-forma which seeks consent to use Anthisan Ointment and Jungle Formula Bite & Sting Spray. The school grounds are troubled with a large amount of wasps and already this week we have had several children suffering from stings!



## **School Holiday List**

Please be advised that the previously released School Holiday List has to be amended as we have started back early. A 'refreshed' list will be issued in the end of September News Bulletin.

## Homework / Reading

Class teachers are heartened by the fact that most parents take an active interest in their children's schoolwork. **Please initial all homework and encourage good presentation.** It is essential that books used at home should be 'backed' and that all pencils, rubbers, lunchboxes, clothing etc. should be clearly labelled to help preserve their 'shelf life'. We respectfully ask that you do not stick tape to the book cover and please refrain from marking Reading books to emphasise certain words.

## Extra Curricular Activities

After school activities for the senior pupils (Primary 5 – 7) **will not take place** until further notice.

## Absence Notes

Enclosed within this information sheet are two sheets of absence notes to make it more convenient for parents when signing for a child's absence. The child should bring the note on their return to school to the Class Teacher. Additional sheets if and when required are available to download from Resources tab of the school website.



### Snow White

Due to Covid-19 the school had to cancel the performance of 'Snow White'. In March we asked that you would keep your Snow White tickets safe at home. We now ask that in order to refund the tickets you return them in a clearly named envelope. Write the eldest child's name on the back of each ticket and send them into the eldest child's class teacher in a clearly named and labelled envelope. Refunds will then be issued via the eldest child.

## School Uniform

Please label every item of clothing.

Finally, be assured that the staff and I greatly value your continued support in all school matters, particularly at this most challenging of times.

(Principal)  
C M°Cambley

### Child Protection Team

WPS Nursery Unit	Foundation Stage (Primary 1 & 2)	Key Stage One (Primary 3 & 4)	Key Stage Two (Primary 5 - 7)	Principal
Mrs C Emerson (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)	Mrs J Brown (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)	Mr M Gault (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)	Mrs S Sloan (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)	Mr C M°Cambley (Member of the Child Protection Team)

### Child Protection Governors

Mr T M°Kay

Mrs H Wan

Asthma Register ... Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Class teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

My child has been diagnosed as suffering from asthma. I would like to add their name to the school's Asthma Register. I will provide a spare inhaler for the school asap.



Please complete the entire page and return to school immediately.

## Asthma Register

1/ My child has an asthmatic inhaler (one provided to school) and I would like them to be included in Waringstown Primary School's Asthma Register:

Yes  (Move to No 2)

No  (Please sign and date)

Parental Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2/ I grant permission for the school to administer the spare inhaler in the case of an emergency  
**(ONLY TO BE FILLED IN IF YOU TICKED YES TO QUESTION 1)**

Yes

No

Parental Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Anthisan Ointment & Jungle Formula Bite and Sting Spray

I give permission for Anthisan Ointment or Jungle Formula Bite & Sting Spray to be used in the event of a sting.

Parental Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WARINGSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Absence Note

Pupil Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (s) of absence: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of return to school: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for absence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent / Guardian) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian) Date: \_\_\_\_\_