



## Westerton Primary Academy

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Leodis  
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Trust



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26<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

### COVID 19 – Update

Many thanks to everyone for their cooperation this week as we added Nursery children to our staggered entry and exit times. We could not have managed this safely without your support and punctuality, it is very much appreciated. Again, we are able to offer reassurance that we have still not had an outbreak of the virus amongst pupils or colleagues and thus, we can proceed with our Reopening Plan and welcome back our children in Year Five and Year Three from next week. We very much look forward to greeting those children who have been absent from the building since the lockdown began.

With the rigorous hygiene protocols in place and the regular deep cleaning routine, we remain very optimistic that we will be able to have welcomed back all our children in every year group for the last two weeks of term. Even though this will only be for two days per week, we know how important this return will be for all children, parents and colleagues, to allay any residual anxieties about the virus and/or returning to school. The fact that we are closed for the duration of the Summer break makes this time at the end of term all the more important. If your child has been invited back to school and has not yet accessed their place, please do consider sending them and know their place will be open until the end of the term.

Our plans for Transition are being finalised along with class groups for next year. Specific details about this will be distributed in our correspondence when the latest government guidance regarding class size bubbles and expectations for next term has been released. Our contingency plans are in abundance but it would be futile to share any aspects of them until we have a little more clarity.

Following our full Governing Board meeting this week, we can confirm our decision to avoid any class re-shuffling for the beginning of the next academic year. This is to reduce anxiety by promoting consistency and welcome the children back to some familiarity where possible. Given that their Class Teacher, classroom, curriculum, timetables and routines will all be different, returning to the same class group will be much more beneficial socially and emotionally for the vast majority. We understand that a small minority of parents have expressed negative preferences for next year and ask that they please be patient in this regard as we are simply unable to honour the requests of individuals as this time. However, our Therapeutic Team will be helping to provide intensified social emotional support throughout the academy as wellbeing will be our first priority in all aspects of school life in September. Unfortunately, one change for one child is never possible in an organisation of this size without it having an accumulative impact on others. Thank you for your understanding with this.

The home learning opportunities on SeeSaw and Tapestry will continue until the end of the term. However, we are aware that many of our children in the routine of home learning will continue to read voraciously throughout the holidays. Excellent! To foster a love of reading and provide access to a wide variety of genres and texts at all levels, we have invested in an **online library** of over 5000 books. This will support our Accelerated Reader approach to reading development throughout the extended break, further exciting details of this will be shared in additional information before the end of term by Mrs Dawson and Miss Henderson.

The weather has enabled some of our bubbles to make great use of the outdoor classroom this week. Hopefully there will be more opportunities next week. Please do ensure your child has a sun hat and sun cream if we have a hot spell again. Likewise, please ensure they have a waterproof coat if we have another monsoon. (We do so love a bit of variety!)

Please do continue to take care over the weekend, keeping safe, alert and adhering to the social distancing guidelines, keeping up to date with them is an achievement in itself. We look forward to seeing you in increasing numbers next week.

Yours faithfully

Stephanie Makin  
Principal and the Westerton Team