



## Westerton Primary Academy

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Leodis  
Academies  
Trust



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9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

### **COVID 19 – Update**

In the current circumstances, particularly with the local situation, we do feel very fortunate to have still been able to remain fully open without having to close a year group bubble, as yet. Again, we would like to thank everyone in supporting the measures we are maintaining to try to keep our community as safe as possible. From next week our Nursery children in attendance for 30 hours will be able to join us for four days a week with Wednesdays still kept free for deep cleaning. After half term, from the 2<sup>nd</sup> November, it is our intention to have Nursery open for the full five days and we very much look forward to being able to do this, as planned.

However, as the situation can change daily and indeed has in some areas, we also feel it is best to be prepared for a worse scenario and provide some guidance as to how we will respond if/when we do have a confirmed positive case of Covid at very short notice. We do understand that parents will appreciate as much notice as possible for a bubble closure but, realistically, this will not always be possible.

Given that our first year groups to arrive in the mornings currently begin at 8.30a.m. we will aim to inform parents between 8.00a.m. and 8.15a.m. if there is a need to close a year group with the following text:

***Positive COVID 19: Year \_\_\_\_\_ will be closed today. Please do not send your child. Further information to follow. Other bubbles remain open.***

This text will be sent to the year group concerned as our first correspondence to allow time for the academy to investigate exposure possibilities and send the appropriate standard follow up letters to the parents and colleagues concerned. Siblings of children in the closed year group will still be expected in school. Please do not telephone the office at this time, there is no doubt we will need to keep our phone lines free!

When parents have had a need to access a test for their child, we would be very grateful if you could **email the office to inform us of the result**. Children who are **awaiting a result must not be in attendance** at school.

SeeSaw and Tapestry would continue to be in use in the event of a year group bubble being collapsed as children and parents are now familiar with these platforms. However, please do be aware colleagues will not be responding to comments outside of their normal working hours.

With such grim possibilities to consider, we all feel in need of a lift at the moment. In the absence of our Harvest Festivals, Monster Discos and other customary fabulous events we are planning a **Fancy Dress Fundraiser for Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. Children and colleagues are encouraged to dress up in any way they choose for a donation of £2. The proceeds will be shared between the academy and our chosen charity this year supporting research into Childhood Cancer. We do hope everyone is able to participate and very much look forward to seeing the creativity of the outfits which will undoubtedly appear (and that is just the staff!)

We do have an increasing number of disabled parents and grandparents who drop and collect their children. Our car park has only a **limited number of disabled spaces** which are only really useful for those dropping or collecting our Key Stage Two children from the Hesketh Lane gate. Whilst the lay-by in front of the academy is under council control, it has been suggested that it would be helpful if blue badge holders were able to access this more easily. Therefore, we do encourage motorists to **avoid parking in the lay-by** if at all possible to facilitate those who need to park closer to the Westerton Road gates, perhaps parking at a distance or walking to and from school when possible. Your understanding in this would be very much appreciated especially as the colder weather comes and the ground can be more dangerous underfoot.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept coats or any other items to be dropped off. Please remind your child to bring everything they will need for the day in with them at the start of the day. We will always provide a drink or lunch if these items are forgotten.

Flu Immunisation - we are expecting the flu immunisation team in school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November to administer the nasal vaccination to our pupil's in Reception through to Year 6. Letters providing information are expected to arrive in school next week and these will be distributed as soon as they are received. If you wish your child to receive an immunisation, you will need to provide an electronic consent as instructed on the letter.

All that remains is to wish you all a lovely restful and safe weekend. Thank you everyone for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Stephanie Makin  
Principal and the Westerton Team