



Whitgreave Primary School

Goodyear Avenue, Low Hill, Wolverhampton WV10 9JP

Telephone: 01902 558930 Fax 01902 558932

E-mail: info@whitgreaveprimary.co.uk Web: www.whitgreaveprimary.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Sarah Redfern

Monday 22nd June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well?

I am writing this letter to keep you all updated on our current situation. At the moment, we are open to children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. Years 5 and 4 will be returning on Monday 22nd June, with Years 3 and 2 returning on Monday 29th June. We are very fortunate to be in the position to be able to do this, as we have capacity and staffing to make this offer. As a staff, we are very excited at being able to welcome back even more children, we have missed them all lots!

We have also updated our School Website and added more information to support home learning. I know that this has been a challenge for some parents/carers but you are doing a great job, so thank you!

The Key Worker Group has been in school now since the Lockdown and school has remained open for these children and others, during the school holidays and also, all of the Bank Holidays.

As per my previous letters, we have put plans in place for the safe return of our children and have put in place lots of health and safety measures to support our children to return.

We have delivered lots of food parcels to families within the area and we will continue to do so. Lots of families have been collecting packed lunches too, which is great. We have also delivered packed lunches where families have been isolating.

In terms of the Free School Meal Scheme, when the government first decided to move to the vouchers, as a Leadership Team we did make the decision to wait as we knew that there would be lots of issues with the system. As reported in the news, lots of the vouchers did not work, parents/carers could not get access and when trying to pay for shopping, some of the vouchers were not valid. Plus, the government had said at that point that the vouchers would not be issued during the school holidays, so we would have had to revert back to providing the packed lunches.

Moving forward, our plan was to introduce the voucher system, however, the government then made the decision for the children to return, so we decided to continue with the current system as the children would be returning to school and having their lunch here with us. To be honest, it was a time of constant change and all schools were unsure as to what to do for the best. While a number of schools have switched to the vouchers, there are still a number who have continued to provide lunches. The government stated that the decision was one for schools.

Also, just to clarify the situation, as the vouchers come direct from the government, school has not received the funding for the vouchers, or any additional funding.



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Now that the government have made the decision to provide the vouchers throughout the Summer Holidays, we are hoping that all the issues have been resolved and we can now move towards parents/carers having the vouchers. However, we will still be offering the packed lunches, as some parents have expressed that they would prefer to keep receiving the lunches.

This has been and is still a very challenging time for us all and as a school, we are trying our very best to get it right and support all of our families. I think you will agree, we need to pull together and support each other during this difficult time.

Take care and stay safe.

Mrs S Redfern
Head Teacher