COVID-19 POLICY

Our Vision:

We are committed to quality learning in a positive, happy and Christian atmosphere where everyone within the school community is valued as an individual. We expect everyone to, 'Treat others as you want them to treat you.' (Matthew 7:12-14). We have high expectations of all and strive to provide a safe, challenging, exciting and stimulating environment.

Our Values:

To ensure the health, safety and well-being of our pupils, staff and visitors are met through our school values of:

- Respect – by all respecting the changes made to our safeguarding policies and procedures at this time of pandemic to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our whole school community.
- Compassion – by considering the needs of the whole school community. Understanding that each family has a unique set of circumstances and needs kindness and support whatever their situation.
- Creation – creating a safe and secure environment that enables children to thrive and flourish and parents/carers to feel supported and staff to feel confident.
- Perseverance – to persevere in creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment, ensuring equal opportunities for every child.
- Service – by providing support for home learning for all children, childcare for vulnerable children and children of keyworkers. To build trusting relationships, with the whole school community as we serve to help to keep everyone safe.

What is Covid 19?

Covid 19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI for virus, and 'D' for disease.

Why we need this policy

This policy is to be read in conjunction with all our other policies. This is a new policy to address the Covid-19 situation (June 2020), highlighting the changes we have made to our structure and routines to reduce the risk of harm to our children, staff, parents and visitors to school as informed by our risk assessments.

Aims

- To minimise the contacts of all individuals during the pandemic and any future Covid-19 pandemics.
- To ensure everyone washes their hands more often than usual.
- Promote good respiratory hygiene. “Catch it, bin it, kill it’, approach.
- Regularly clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Should it ever be enforced in future, maintain social distancing in-line with guidance.

Home Learning

Whilst children are at home, we will provide schoolwork on Seesaw which will be planned and set by the class teacher in line with the year group National Curriculum expectations for all curriculum areas. Work will be put on Seesaw the previous day, where possible, and it will be designed to include as much support for parents as possible. They will include as many practical tasks and video links which will be helpful to teach some of the learning objectives.

Keeping children motivated with home learning is challenging. The best approach is not to try to replicate school but establish a structured routine for every day. Little and often is the key. Children like to know what to expect and clear guidance about what you expect them to achieve each day. Tasks should be as varied and as practical as possible. Learning valuable life skills is just as important during this time.

We advise that parents/carers do not put too much pressure on themselves. You have your own work commitments. Home learning should be fun and something you can do together around your own commitments. If things are not going well, change what you are doing to something else and revisit at another time. Try not to fall out about home learning, it doesn’t do either of you any good.

Transport to School

Parents to be aware of recommendations on transport to and from school. Read the Coronavirus (COVID-19): safer travel guidance for passengers. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers
All future guidance will be adhered to in relation to transport should there be future outbreaks.

Uniform

Children attending school are expected to wear uniform. (Shirt/polo shirt and trousers/skirt/pinafore or blue check summer dress in the summer term only). Appropriate footwear, no open toe sandals. Children must be able to tie their own shoelaces if they wear shoes with laces. (We are unable to do this for them). Ties are not necessary. School sweatshirt or school cardigan if needed. Ideally uniform should be washed following every session that your child attends school if possible.

Drop off and collection of pupils

If children need to be accompanied to school, only one parent should drop off or collect outside the school gate. Parents will not enter the playground at this time. Parents

must adhere to appropriate staggered time for year group starts and finishes if these new times are deemed necessary. Children must be willing to enter the classroom without physical intervention from a staff member. If a child is unwilling to enter school, the parent could try bringing their child in at another time.

Parents and carers must not gather at the entrance gates or doors and must maintain a safe distance from other adults and wear a face covering if required.

In Classrooms

- Children will enter the classroom through the outside doors.
- They will bring no other equipment other than water bottle and packed lunch.
- Desks will be individually spaced where possible.
- Resources will be provided by school in individual packs not used by any other child.
- Social & Emotional and Mental Health and Well-Being will be a priority.
- Classrooms will be well ventilated with learning taking place outside if possible.
- Collective worship and assembly will take place in individual classrooms over Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

Lunch and Break Times

- Staggered lunch and break times may be introduced in the event of any future Covid-19 pandemics.
- Snack will provided by school. Children will not be allowed to bring in snacks from home.
- Rota system for outdoor play areas to allow all children access to all areas over time should there be social distancing restrictions put in place in the future.

First Aid

All staff are qualified emergency first aiders and are advised to wear PPE when applying first aid or giving any medication.

Cleaning

- Classrooms, offices and toilets will be cleaned after each teaching session, (morning and afternoon).
- Children will have their own resources in individual envelopes/plastic wallets which they will clean themselves at the end of the session with wipes.
- Children returning from the toilet will be asked to wash their hands again in view of the staff member.
- Hand sanitiser will be used by everyone entering a classroom.
- Children will be asked to use hand sanitiser on their entrance to the playground.
- Visitors will be asked to sanitise their hands when entering the building.

Use of Sports and PE Equipment

Any equipment used will be cleaned afterwards. As many lessons as possible will take place outside.

Communication

As the Covid 19 situation has constantly changed in the past this and may do in the future, this will inevitably have an impact on what we need to do in school. Our risk assessment will remain under constant review, and we aim to provide our school community with as much information as we can - with the most notice possible.

In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, office staff may sometimes be working from home. Parents will be encouraged to contact the office via email rather than in person. office@willastonce.cheshire.sch.uk

Any visitors to school will be kept behind the glass panel, while appropriate social distancing must always be acknowledged. PPE will be available for staff members who wish to use it.

Parents/carers are encouraged to contact school staff by email through office@willastonce.cheshire.sch.uk or you can leave a telephone message for a staff member to ring you back.

Staff and Governors meetings may take place electronically.

During Periods of Lockdown and School Partial Closure

We aim to keep in regular contact, communicate and engage families as much as possible.

We will follow the Government guidance regarding who should or should not be attending school.

CORONAVIRUS IN CHILDREN

What to do if your child has symptoms of coronavirus.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Use the 111 online coronavirus service if your child is 5 or over. Call 111 if they're under 5.

What happens if a child becomes unwell in school?

It may be very difficult to determine if a child has suspected coronavirus is school. Children will sometimes say they have a ‘tummy ache’ if they are feeling unwell because they may not have the vocabulary to accurately describe how they are

actually feeling. In school, we will air on the side of caution and take action which we feel protects the health and safety of everyone. We would be really grateful if you kept your child at home if they are unwell.

What happens if there is a suspected case of coronavirus whilst a child or staff member is in school?

The child or staff member will be directed to a designated space away from others. (Chill Tank or Outside Classroom).

Parents/Carers will be called for collection.

Staff providing support to individual will be expected to wear face covering, gloves and plastic apron.

The most recent and up-to-date Government guidance will be followed.

If the case is found to be positive, the most up-to-date Government guidance will be actioned.

Parents and carers may be informed of any positive cases identified from school.

Review

This policy will remain under constant review, in-line with our school risk assessment. The school community will be kept up to date regarding changes as they happen.

We will consult with the Local Authority, Public Health England North West (Telephone: 0344 2250562), and the Public Health Team at Cheshire West publichealth@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk if we have any queries regarding the health and safety of our children, staff and families.

Approved by Governors – July 2024



Signed Chair of Governors

Appendix 1

Further information can be found at PHE NW guidance – just double click on the below file :-



UPDATED - CWAC
PHE NW SCHOOL RE

Please bear in mind that section 7 is constantly under review.