



8<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

## Returning to school in September

Dear Parents / Carers

Traditionally when a school year comes to a close, pupils, families and staff take a moment to reflect on the year that was. Certainly, we can all agree, the 2019-2020 school year is one we will never forget. Along with the challenges of the last four months, I hope you won't forget the many events and celebrations that you have supported and all the amazing achievements of our pupils.

Once again this year, Widnes Academy pupils and staff, whether physically in our buildings or working from home in a new environment for education, demonstrated their commitment to education and to one another. I applaud the efforts of our pupils, staff and parents/carers who have worked so hard to keep the learning going.

Now, it is time to look ahead to the next school year. We know the economic, medical, social and academic landscapes are continuing to shift and expectations, requirements and possibilities will continue to move with them throughout the foreseeable future. While there are so many unknowns, we believe, even in the best-case scenario, things will look different when we return fully in September than they did in early March.

In order to support the planning and preparing of the school building and classrooms for September we intend to close fully for pupils on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**. Our staff will then spend the remainder of the term reorganising classrooms and preparing resources and materials for the changes required for September.

End of year reports have been prepared by staff outlining your child's progress and attainment up to March 2020 and these will be sent home with your child in September.

As we are unable to run our usual transition plans all teachers have prepared a short video introducing themselves to their new class and these will all be available on the class pages of our school website early next week.

The staffing from September will be as follows:

Nursery – Miss Rushton and Mrs Ball (Mrs Cassidy will return to school in January at the end of her maternity leave and will be supporting Miss Rushton)

Reception – Miss Worrall (new to school) and Miss Grace

Aspiring and Achieving



Year 1 – Mrs Kirchin

Year 2 – Miss Shaw

Year 3/4 - Mrs Harding/Mrs Byrne (Mrs Harding will take the class full time until Mrs Byrne returns from maternity leave in October. They will then form a job share.

Y4/5 – Miss Myles

Year 6 – Miss Blomfield

Further details regarding groupings and start and finish times for the day will be sent out once our re-opening plans and risk assessments are finalised

**All pupils will return to school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Children in Reception and Nursery will have their own information sent through separately as part of their transition into school.**

We wish our departing Year 6 pupils the very best in their next exciting stage of their education journey at High school and look forward to welcoming all our pupils in other year groups back in September. We have re organized the curriculum a little to allow us to maintain social distancing as much as possible and also to enable the children to ease back into school life quickly and easily.

We hope you all have a safe summer break and we will see you all in September. Please keep checking the school website and our Facebook page for updates and any further changes to arrangements for September. If you have any worries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school office and myself or Mrs Kirchin will be available to speak to you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Highcock

Principal