

8th September, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after what has been a very long break. It is so lovely to have all of the Ilsham family back together again and it is also wonderful to welcome our new Willows' children and their families. Our attendance has been 96% plus for the first few days back – amazing!. Thank you all for having the confidence to send your children back to school – there is such a great buzz around the academy as children and staff are settling back into their routines.

I also wanted to thank you for the overwhelmingly positive feedback at the school gate and for sharing how confident you feel in the new systems we have in place, which are working well. Of course there are tweaks to be made and these will happen over time if we see that something isn't working so please continue to let us know your thoughts.

Lots of parents have been asking for clarification of a few things so hopefully the points below will address those.

1. What can my child bring to school?

Only bring into school what is required for the day.

- Lunchboxes
- Water bottle (must be water and not juice)
- Full school uniform (summer uniform if you have one)
- Book bag if you have one (with reading book and reading diary in each day). If you do not have one, these can be purchased from the Price and Buckland uniform supplier we use and can only be purchased online at <https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/schools/ilsham-ce-academy.html>. If you do not wish to buy one, please can the reading book and diary be brought into school in a carrier bag each day so that it can be stored in your child's tray. A bookbag is preferable as it keeps the book and diary in good condition.

No rucksacks, school bags or individual pencil cases are allowed on site. Thank you for your support with this.

2. When will my child's P.E lesson be? What will they wear?

Below are the days when your child will be having P.E for this half term initially. For the first half term as a trial, we would like your child to come into school wearing their P.E kit for the days on which they have P.E. We would also like all children to wear their school jumper over their P.E shirt during the school day.

- Separate white T-shirt
- Stretchy, black or navy shorts
- Plimsolls or trainers
- If the weather is especially cold, your child is permitted to wear appropriate leggings or tracksuit bottoms. Children are not permitted to wear sportswear with branded names on.



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TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

Willows – Monday and Wednesday
 Rowans – Tuesday and Friday
 Beeches – Tuesday and Friday
 Maples – Wednesday and Thursday
 Hollies – Wednesday and Thursday
 Oaks – Tuesday and Friday
 Monkey Puzzles – Tuesday and Friday

3. How do I order a school lunch?

All school lunches need to be ordered by midnight the day before your child will have that lunch. Please follow the link below to do this.

<https://login.eduspot.co.uk/public/portal/parent/?app=SchoolMoney&source=website&version=20190314>

We are not able to order school lunches from the office or over the telephone after this Friday, 11th September.

4. How does drop off work in terms of adult safety?

I firstly wanted to thank you for your support in making the morning run so smoothly. The vast majority of our children were in school by 8.55am this morning which shows that the system is working. A reminder of the times are here below.

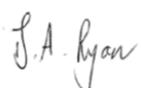
Class	Timings	Gate
Willows (from this Thursday onward)	8.40 – 8.50 am and 3.00 – 3.10 pm	Lane gate
Rowans	8.30 – 8.40 am and 2.50 – 3.00 pm	Lane gate
Beeches	8.30 – 8.40 am and 2.50 – 3.00 pm	Main gate
Maples	8.40 – 8.50 am and 3.00 – 3.10 pm	Main gate
Hollies	8.50 – 9.00 am and 3.10 – 3.20 pm	Main gate
Oaks	8.40 – 8.50 am and 3.00 – 3.10 pm	Fountain gate
Monkey Puzzles	8.30 – 8.40 am and 2.50 – 3.00 pm	Fountain gate

a) Thank you to those of you who are following the one way system around the school. This is important for everyone's safety. When dropping your child in the lane, (Rowans' and Willows' parents) please can you follow the one way system and not go back up the lane. This may add 2 minutes to your walk but helps to keep everyone as safe as possible. At the main gate, there is sometimes a bottle neck still. Please can I ask that once you have dropped your child in the morning, that you carry on walking past the school gate and do not double back on yourself. Also, please can you avoid congregating around the school railings as we need to keep that 2m distance observed at all times – thank you.

b) It is important that you drop off and collect your child ONLY in the allotted time for your child's class. Obviously, if you are running late on a one-off occasion, please phone the office to let us know. Please only queue at your allotted time at the start and end of the day – this will allow other children and families to access school safely at their time.

Thank you everyone. All of the efforts we are all showing will support in keeping our children and families as safe as possible. We all have a part to play so thank you for trusting us and for playing your part.

Yours sincerely,



Dawn Ryan
 Head of Academy