

# WILLOWBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rosen Crescent, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex CM13 2TU

Headteacher: Mrs C Branton, Headteacher: B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH.

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To Parents/Carers,

I am writing to provide an update, as we look to enhance our provision during the course of this current partial closure.

We have been making extensive use of our virtual learning environment, DB Primary, and taking advantage of the facilities that this educational site provides, such as the ability to provide feedback on work and to attach resources. Teachers have developed and utilised a variety of methods to deliver their teaching, including but not limited to:

- Presentations with voiceover instructions.
- BBC Bitesize – video clips, information.
- Video clips and new created material.
- Oak National Academy - online classroom resources from HM Government.
- White Rose maths teaching videos.

I wanted to thank you for joining us on Monday for the first class zoom session. It was lovely to see you all. We decided to introduce these zooms, in addition to our teaching provision, in order to provide additional opportunities for interaction between staff and pupils. Therefore, we would like to invite your child to two zooms each week (Monday and Friday) These again will be for 15 mins each. If your child is in school they will still attend these sessions.

These sessions are important in supporting your child's well-being and is an opportunity for your child to see their teachers, support staff and friends.

They will not be live teaching sessions but sessions that will involve a fun interactive activity for example; a phonic, maths, fitness, finding objects, drawing game or activity. Your child's class teacher will inform you on DB Primary if you will need anything for each zoom session.

We as a school have decided that we will not be carrying out live zoom teaching sessions. Teachers are still in school teaching the key worker children and there are some families who would not be able to access live lessons due to work commitments or family circumstances. Live lessons can cause stress and anxiety for many pupils and those unable to access live lessons are immediately put at a disadvantage to their peers. Therefore, we will provide access to high quality teaching that is tailored to the individual and classes needs through DB Primary. This will be done in a variety of ways including teaching videos and PowerPoints with class teacher voices. Your child can access these independently. They can pause them for needed thinking time or time needed to carry out a set task before moving on to the next part of the session. They can repeat the instructions if needed and even repeat the whole session. Our provision allows children to learn at their own individual pace and at a time that is suitable to them or a time that works with your family needs/routines and work commitments. I hope you understand and support our school decision.

Our Core Values: **INDEPENDENCE** - HAPPINESS – **TEAM WORK** - CARING - **RESPECT** – HONESTY



### **Zoom Meet - Tips for Parents and Carers**

Zoom is a cloud-based video conferencing service you can use to virtually meet others. This is a chance for your child to catch up with their teachers and peers. Children in school will be still be able to join us.

There are two main ways to join the Zoom meet. **Remember, you will need a device with a camera and a microphone to be able to join.**

- The first way is to download the zoom app and then join by clicking on the link in the attached information within the email that is sent to you.

The second way to join is by typing in the meeting ID number, see below. It will then ask for a passcode to join. This will be the code within the email sent to you within the email.

Join a Meeting

We will allow a few minutes at the start of each meet for technical issues so don't panic if your method doesn't work straight away.

Please join the meeting room a few minutes before the meeting start time. This will allow the staff member to admit all before the meeting. If you arrive later than that, it is really difficult for the teacher to admit you because they are leading the zoom session and will be concentrating on their task.

Please join with the camera and microphone on. You are welcome to say hello during the first few minutes. The teacher will then tell the children when to listen or when to mute themselves. This will allow the teacher to set out the task instructions.

At the end of the session your teacher will call your name and say goodbye to you individually. When this is done the child must leave the zoom call. This way the teacher can say a personal goodbye to all the children that have attended and the ending will run smoothly.

**Parental consent** – Please note that it is advised Zoom accounts are only accessed by people over the age of 18. If you would like your child to be part of a zoom call, please help them set this up and join the room. Please be aware that you are consenting for your child to take part in a call that features video and audio facilities.

Parents/guardians should be mindful about what family activities would potentially be heard/seen during these zoom sessions. This is a great tool to keep us connected, but please have your child somewhere near enough so you can monitor, yet private enough to concentrate on their zoom session.

### **Pupil Expectations whilst on Zoom**

<b>Zoom Do</b>	<b>Zoom Don't</b>
Join your class a couple minutes early to ensure proper connection.	Do not share the Zoom link with anyone outside of your class. Those links are intended for class only.
Physically raise your hand if you want the teacher to hear something and wait for the teacher to call on you.	Eat during a zoom session. It will be a 15-minute session, so you can have something afterwards.

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Be appropriate; treat it like a regular Classroom.	Shout out over your teacher and peers if you are meant to be listening.
Dress appropriately.	Take Zoom into the bedroom or bathroom.
Use video if allowed by your parents.	
Log in from a place that is free from Distractions.	

**Please note that you must not post pictures of your virtual zoom class on social media or elsewhere online.**

We are committed to improving the support experiences for our pupils and their families and, importantly, facilitate a moment for pupils to reconnect with friends and peers.

We really appreciate your support during this challenging time and we are working very hard to keep our pupils at Willowbrook engaged and supported. Please take a moment to thank your child's teachers—they are working harder/longer hours than they would if school were in session.

We are all experiencing the difficulties and uncertainties that this pandemic has presented. Thank you for all your comments, questions and expressions of support throughout these unparalleled times. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any problems or concerns.

We miss the faces and sounds of our Willowbrook children and look forward to eventually returning back to school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Branton  
Headteacher

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