



Message from the Head

Dear Parents and Families,

I am writing this newsletter to provide you with up to date information about school start-up in September 2015. Watling Park School will open full time from Monday 14th September, as planned. There has been delays on the Pavilion way site, so not to delay the start any further, we have secured an alternative temporary location to start school.

The site secured is the old Orion School at Lanacre Ave, Grahame Park, NW9 5FN. It is a great option to have.

We will be sharing this site with Barnet Education & Skills Training Hub (The BEST Hub) but we will be in our own designated part of the school building.

Whilst we are frustrated at the delay to the opening at Pavilion Way, we are determined that Watling Park School will open to its pupils from September 14th and have therefore put into place this workable solution, which will involve providing transport for pupils from the Pavilion Way site.

The new temporary site will provide a good facility for the Watling Park community as it has served as a school until only recently and we are very pleased to have the support of Barnet Local Authority whilst we work to ensure our new school is ready as soon as possible. It is anticipated that we will be at the temporary site for no more than four weeks, weather permitting.

Plans are currently underway to meet the children at the Pavilion Way site at 8.45am each morning and in the evening, a coach will pick up the children at 3.30pm with a planned drop off time of 3.45pm. There will be appropriately-staffed transport to escort the pupils between the Pavilion Way site and Lanacre Avenue.

Alternatively, parents can choose to drop off at school between 9.15am to 9.30am or pick up from 3pm – 3.20pm at Lanacre Avenue. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to offer extended care during this period.

Even though it will open on different premises, we are confident that every child will receive an outstanding education from day one. I would like to reassure you that the safety and security of your children were uppermost in our minds when considering alternative provision. The new staff who have been employed for Watling Park will be working with the children at the temporary location so that they get to know them from the beginning.

On Thursday 10th and Friday 11th, We will be offering stay and play sessions from 9.30 to 11.30. This is open to all our families and will provide you with an opportunity to see the temporary site, join in activities with your child and ask us any questions.

We really do appreciate the difficulty of this situation for our families and I would like to thank all of you for your patience throughout these times. I remain optimistic that a start date at the Pavilion site will be reached very soon. We will of course continue to keep you updated on progress through updates on our website and newsletters.

Moira Anderson
Headteacher

Stay and Play sessions

We will be offering Stay and Play sessions on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th September from 9.30 – 11.30am.

This will take place on the temporary site at:

**The former Orion Primary School
Lanacre Ave, Grahame Park, NW9 5FN**

Come and enjoy some stories, fun games and activities. Juice and snacks will be provided. Everyone is welcome and it will give you a chance to see the good facilities we have here too.

Home visits

Home visits will take place during the first two week(s) in September. You should have received an email by now informing you of the day and time along with an enrolment form. If you haven't already done so, can you please confirm as to whether your allocated slot is convenient for you or whether you would like to rearrange to a more convenient time.

We do ask that you complete the enrolment form as fully as possible before the meeting as this will ensure that we have more time to discuss your child's need and answer any questions you might have.

Home visits are an important part of the transition for you and your child into school. It is an opportunity for you to speak one to one with the adults who will be working with your children in school and a time for your child to meet their new teachers in an environment they feel comfortable in.