



# Whitehead

Primary School  
& Nursery Unit

Friday 1 October

'LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER'

## Dates for the Diary

### October

14 & 15 Flu Vaccinations  
18 & 19 Nursery Parent/Teacher Consultations (by telephone)  
18 – 21 Y1 – Y7 Parent/Teacher Consultations (by telephone)  
22 School finishes @ 1.45pm (Y1-3) & 1.50pm (Y4-7) for Half Term  
25 – 29 School Closed

### November

1 School reopens at the usual time

## Parent/Teacher Consultations

Parent/Teacher Consultations for Y1-7 children will take place **Monday 18 – Thursday 21 October**. In order to facilitate the consultations **school will close at 1.45pm (Y1-3) and 1.50pm (Y4-7) pm Monday 18 – Thursday 21**.

Teachers will meet on Tuesday 12 October in order to co-ordinate consultation times for siblings. All parents will be informed of consultation times via Seesaw on Wednesday 13 October.

## Changes in Special Educational Needs

I have included a document provided by the Education Authority in regard to the changes in the SEN Code of Practice. The new 3 stage model, as explained in the document, means that there will be changes in how we record children on the SEN register. The SEN register is how we record the level of provision a child with Special Educational Needs receives in order for them to make progress.

If your child is currently on a stage 1 Action plan, or an IEP, your child's teacher will review the Action Plan or IEP during October Parent/Teacher consultations. They will also inform you if your child will continue to be recorded on the SEN register.

Please be assured that all children will continue to be supported in their learning and their progress monitored even if an Action plan or IEP is no longer needed.

If you haven't applied for **free school meals** yet I would urge you to do so. Our school budget can be hugely affected by the number of children on free school meals. Even if your child never plans to take a meal please apply so that we can access a much greater budget.



## FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND UNIFORM GRANTS

- If you have not applied please do so as soon as possible
- It can take up to four weeks for an application to be processed
- If you have not received an email confirming your application please check your junk mail
- For more information please visit: [www.eani.org/fsm](http://www.eani.org/fsm)

## The Secret Bookshelf

The Secret Bookshelf in Carrick are starting a school partnership scheme where anyone making a purchase can say they are supporting WPSNU and the shop will record 5% of the sale for us to spend on books. Please see the information below.

As restrictions ease and everyone mixes more PHA are expecting a higher than normal number of **RSV/bronchiolitis infections** in young children for this time of year. PHA have produced some information in the form of a leaflet and factsheet which you can access using the links below:

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-what-do-i-need-know>

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-questions-and-answers>

## If your child tests positive for Covid-19

**Please text our school Covid-19 number - 07359 015420 with your child's name and class**

This will allow me to arrange for the classroom to be deep cleaned and to inform the staff and parents that there has been a positive case in school. Staff will be informed specifically of which child has tested positive. For information purposes only, parents will be informed through Seesaw, that there has been a positive case in a particular class.

We have several children with a variety of food allergies, some of which could be life threatening. I would like to remind you that **no food containing nuts should be brought to school**. Thank you for your support in this very important matter.



3 Islandmagee Road, Whitehead, BT38 9NE

Tel: 02893353280, Email: [jloughins453@c2kni.net](mailto:jloughins453@c2kni.net) Website: [www.whiteheadps.com](http://www.whiteheadps.com)

Principal: Mr J. Loughins BEd MEd PQH(NI)



## Moving from five to three stages of the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice

### *\*Guidance for parents and guardians of pupils who are currently on the SEN register*

The SEN Code of Practice is an important guidance document that all schools must follow when making decisions about identifying, assessing and making provision for children who have SEN. Currently, all children with SEN are recorded on the school's SEN register under one of five stages according to the level of support which they need to help them make progress in school. The new Code, when published by the Department of Education, will have three stages for schools to record children on the SEN register.

### Why are we moving from five stages to three?

The new three stages are easier for parents, schools and everyone involved in helping to support children with SEN to understand and use. They help to streamline the SEN process and they focus specifically on the different levels of provision that can be made to help children with SEN.

### When will the change from five to three stages happen?

Over the next few months, schools will look at their SEN registers and move each child across from the five stage model to the three stage model. All children will be recorded under the new three stages by October 2021.

### What will the new three stages look like?

The new three stages focus on levels of provision for pupils who have SEN:

- **Stage One:** Pupils who are recorded as new Stage One will be receiving **school delivered** special educational provision.
- **Stage Two:** Pupils who are recorded as new Stage Two will be receiving **school delivered special educational provision plus external provision**, e.g. from one of the Education Authority (EA) Pupil Support Services or from a service within the Health and Social Care Trust. Pupils who are going through the **statutory assessment process** will be recorded as Stage Two also.
- **Stage Three:** Pupils who are recorded as new Stage Three will have a **statement** of Special Educational Needs and will be receiving school and EA delivered special educational provision as detailed in their statement.

### Will my child be affected by the move from five to three stages?

Your child will **NOT** be affected by the change. The move from five to three stages is simply a clearer and more user-friendly way of recording the level of provision that pupils with SEN need to help them make progress.

**The provision currently being made for your child will NOT change as a result of SEN registers moving to the three stage model.**

*\*With effect from: April 2021-October 2021*

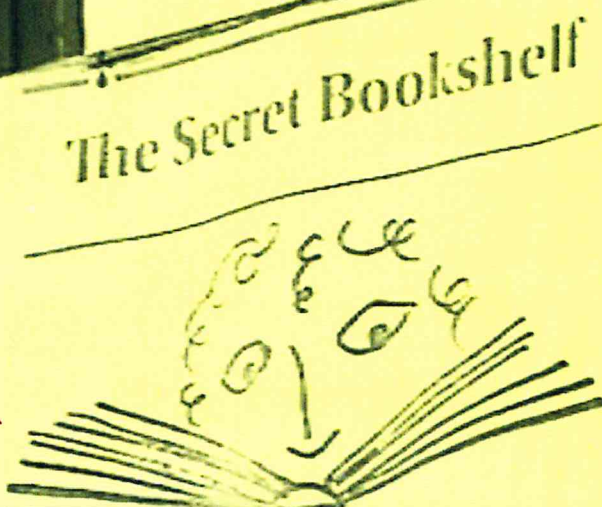
*To inspire, support and challenge all our Children and Young People to be the best they can be*





# The Secret Bookshelf & Whitehead Primary

Support a small, local business and our school by purchasing books from The Secret Bookshelf in Carrickfergus.



When making your purchase, tell the staff at the till you are supporting Whitehead Primary School and they'll record 5% of that sale for our school to use on a book spend later in the year.

