



Willow Learning Trust Statement of Principle on the re-opening of schools

The government set out plans for schools, colleges and early years settings across England to potentially open to more children and young people by 1 June at the earliest.

The Willow Learning Trust's aim is to give all staff and parents the confidence that the WLT has the welfare of all as a priority in all that it does. Trustees are fully aware of the government guidelines and will implement these guidelines as effectively and safely as possible.

It is understood that each of the three schools within the Willow Learning Trust is distinctive and will have different health and safety challenges with varying numbers of staff available for work. Each school's approach to re-opening will therefore differ, whilst working to the same aspiration within agreed guidelines.

- Within the WLT it is understood that Secondary and Primary Schools are working to different government guidelines, but will support each other to achieve their priorities.
- Each Headteacher will work in consultation with staff, governors and unions to achieve a shared agreement on when and how to open.
- The overriding priority will be to act in the best interests of students and staff by ensuring that the best possible safeguarding and health and safety arrangements and precautions are in place.
- Each school will have comprehensive and rigorous health and safety arrangements and a risk assessment in place, including clear protocols and expectations for all staff and pupils; each school will include a temporary addendum to their Health and Safety Policy to cover these matters. Risk assessments will be added to the individual school and WLT websites.
- Each school will have meticulous safeguarding arrangements in place for pupils at school and at home; each school will include a temporary addendum to their Safeguarding Policy to cover these matters.
- Each school will agree plans for reopening with the Executive Headteacher and the Chair of the LGB, within the parameters of the principles set out by this document.
- The WLT personnel committee will agree temporary personnel policies for the duration of the lockdown, including:
 - For staff who are shielding or living in a household where somebody is shielding.
 - For staff who are unable or unwilling to work for various reasons.
- Operational issues are matters for the Headteacher in consultation with the Executive Headteacher and Local Governing Body, including self-isolation of social bubbles, tracing and testing protocols and cleaning.

Simon Brown
Chair of Trustees, Willow Learning Trust
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