



Back to School!

There has been so much in the media over the last year related to return to school - children needing to catch up, attainment gaps widening, mental health issues, inactivity and fitness, anxiety and health worries.

From 8th March all children were expected to be attending school and your school should have sent you information regarding plans to reintegrate all children back into their classrooms. If you need further information or you are worried about anything related to school attendance, please do contact your Virtual School link and/or social worker. We are all working very closely together to ensure our children return back to classrooms whilst feeling safe and happy.

TRANSITIONS:



We have just returned our children to school but we are already thinking about the transitions that are ahead particularly for those who will be starting Secondary school in September 2021. Things to remember which will help support your child if they are facing an educational transition are:

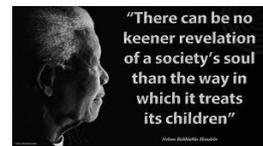
- Transition support needs to be holistic, involving all who are involved with your child and supporting their individual needs in a range of areas:
- In-depth Information sharing and careful planning should take place well before transition and continue afterwards so that the new school has the necessary information to provide sensitive support and involve the right people
- Plans should be made to address any learning needs o Developing relationships with key adults at the new school will make a big difference to the success of transition
- Helping your child to make friends and develop links to the wider community through after-school activities will also support them through transition and into adolescence.



Whilst support should be discrete, school transitions for all children who are Looked After, Adopted or subject to SGOs should involve careful thought and planning. Talk to the Designated Teacher at your child's primary school or their class teacher and start planning together.



We would like to say a massive thank you for all the work that you have continued to do for the children in your care. These have been and continue to be challenging times for carers, parents and for our young people and the Virtual School appreciates all the work that has been happening. The PEPs that have taken place this term have been really focused in targeted support for the young people in our care. We know that these uncertainties continue but we know that our families are working tirelessly to ensure the needs of their CiC are met.



Who we are and what we do:

Wokingham Virtual School (WVS) acts as a Local Authority champion to promote the progress and educational attainment of children and young people who are or who have been in care so that they achieve educational outcomes comparable to their peers. Ensuring that they receive a high quality education is the foundation for improving their lives.

The school does not exist in real terms, or as a building. Children do not attend it - they remain the responsibility of the school at which they are enrolled. WVS is simply an organisation which has been created for the effective coordination of educational services at a strategic and operational level.

Don't forget the virtual school are here to assist you should you require any support. You can email us at the following addresses and we promise we will respond within 24 hours.

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