



Dear parents and guardians,

After a challenging 2020, the school will reopen in September under almost exactly the same Covid-19 Protocols as were in place last year. The school website Covid-19 area has been updated with any changes to the protocols and systems, please make yourselves aware of the updates. The school day starts at 08.55, and at 9.00 am School Gates will be locked. Students arriving after this time will not be permitted to enter school until 09.45 via the Junior entrance controlled by the office.

Please ensure the school has up-to-date contact information at **ALL** times.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate our senior students in Years 11, 12 & 13 who, under extremely difficult circumstances achieved outstanding exam success. They had to endure both actual exams and numerous assessments and we are all very proud of them. Well done!

We welcome some new members to our Wingate family: Mrs Nicole Mahon will teach Geography, English & PE; Miss Patricia Martinez will teach History; Srta Alicia Astorgano will join our Spanish teaching team; Ms Elinor Donnolly will teach English and has a Teaching Assistant role. We have increased our Teaching Assistant numbers to add Mrs Sarah Mark, Mrs Tracy Davies and Mrs Jenny Bowtell, Miss Jolanda Rietti joined us last term. Sra Mari Be has joined our domestic support team

As there is no longer a Tuck Shop, students will have to bring their own snack and lunch. Or, better still, take advantage of the new hot food catering service – see information below. The office staff will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Parking is always an issue but with just a 'drop off' for most students, we would strongly encourage families to use our bus service reducing the congestion – see information below. Also please follow the one way system in the Infant and Junior drop off areas. At the Seniors and siblings Entrance 3 we discourage parents from turning into Calle Beneharo and then turning in the gravel area at the top of this road, please turn at the short road.

Uniform: ALL items of uniform must be named as this year we will not have a “Lost Property” system available. Unnamed uniform items found around the school will be bagged and disposed of. We will stress this to the students too.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Colin Macrae
Head of Wingate School
Tenerife

School Office Information

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Charlotte Champion as our new member of the school office who also has responsibility for the uniform shop. Please note, uniform orders must be made through uniform@wingateschool.com well in advance.

Please contact the school office either by phone or email between the hours of 8.30 am and 4.00 pm.

The School Holiday Calendar can be found via the following link:

<https://www.wingateschool.com/docs/Holiday%20Calendar%202021-2022.pdf>

BUSES: School Buses commence on the 6th of September. To enrol your child and further information on the routes and prices please see:

<https://www.wingateschool.com/docs/School%20Bus%20Service%20as%20of%20September%202021%20en.pdf>

NEW CATERING: Catering Service will commence on the 6th of September

We are happy to inform you that we are upgrading our catering service. We found a new company and did a trial tasting session where all the catering staff and all the Heads of Departments tried out a sample of their food. We were all extremely happy with the quality and quantity offered.

Our new catering service will now include the students breaktime snack; a "pulguita", a juice and either a yoghurt or a piece of fruit with no increase in cost to you!

The food is 90% locally sourced, the fish is MSC certified sustainable, the meat is national and local, also sustainable certified. We will be offering all dietary options too, at the same price.

Our younger children will still receive the attention that they do now, with our kind catering staff keeping their eye on them and ensuring that they eat properly and letting the parents know if their child is not enjoying the food. Our hungrier older children are free to get second helpings when they wish.

We have decided that, until we get a proper canteen, we will continue to offer the initial start up discount so you will get the food for 120€/month down from 150€/m, (now with breakfast included).

Strict guidelines for the catering will continue to be provided and we will make washing hands the school mantra. As per new government protocols, the children will have their meals delivered directly to their classrooms or designated class area so that they do not mix with any other classes. Tables and chairs that the children use for the catering service will be cleaned before and after use. Disposable gloves, aprons and face-masks will be used by all serving staff at all times. A specific risk assessment for managing the risk of COVID-19 transmission in the kitchen has been undertaken and the strictest measures are being taken to mitigate any risk.

To enrol your child for the catering service please see further information via the following link:

<https://www.wingateschool.com/docs/Wingate%20School%20Catering%20Service%20en.pdf>

September's menus can be found:

<https://www.wingateschool.com/docs/School%20Meals%20Menu%20Autumn%20Term%202021.pdf>

<https://www.wingateschool.com/docs/School%20Meals%20Menu%20vegetarian%20Autumn%20Term%202021.pdf>

INFANT DEPARTMENT

I hope everyone has had a lovely Summer!

I am really looking forward to seeing everyone again and despite the continued Covid 19 protocols, the children are excited to be returning to school and being with friends. Could I please ask you to check your emails regularly for updates and information from me, Mr Macrae or the school office and it is VITAL that we have up to date contact information for everyone (emails and telephone numbers).

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss Stobbs - from the Junior department to our Infant team, as one of our Year 2 teachers. This year we have two Year 2 classes.

The children will continue to enter and leave school as last year. Unfortunately, parents are still not allowed into school. As you will appreciate, we need to be extremely careful during these times for the greater good of all our children, parents and staff. For new families, this may seem very strange to you, but please don't worry. In fact the children last year, even at Nursery age, were amazing without their parents' help! A member of staff (including me) will be at the school gate to welcome the children and help them to their classrooms and to settle quickly.

Nursery class information:

<https://www.wingateschool.com/docs/Nursery%20Welcome%20Letter%202021.pdf>

Reception class information:

<https://www.wingateschool.com/docs/Reception%20Welcome%20Letter%202021.pdf>

Before school starts:- I would really like you to talk to your child - Tell them how grown up they are now, going into a new class. Tell them how sensible they are being able to just kiss or wave goodbye to mummy/daddy. Tell them how proud you will be when you see all the stickers they will bring home, etc. If you talk about these things a few days before we start it will make things much easier for the children. This is the new "normal" for now. We know some children may cry a little (and the youngest ones like to scream a lot from time to time!) but with the teachers and assistants we have to help, we hope the majority of the children will be happy to be back to school and see teachers and friends! (And for those who like to cry and scream it doesn't usually last long, from experience! We will cope!!)

Please note: **At 9.00 am School Gates will be locked. Students arriving after this time will not be permitted to enter school until 09.45.**

Except for the introductory timetable for Nursery and Reception classes, the children begin at 9am. The usual entrance near the Nursery, now called Gate 1, will open from 8.45-8.55am for Infant children only. Children aged 6 years and above must wear a mask, or will not be allowed into school.

School continues to finish at slightly different times, depending on the age of your child. Staff will bring the children to the gate at the following times:

Nursery - 3.15pm
Reception - 3.20pm
Year 1 - 3.25pm
Year 2 - 3.30pm

Please be prompt in collecting your child. It is essential that children are collected punctually and if you do not have another child to collect that you leave the car park straight away. Due to the Covid-19 Regulations the school currently has no facilities to supervise children after the close of school.

Bus children should now have received detailed information regarding their journey.

Parents will not be able to enter the school to speak to teachers during this "new normal", but if you have any concerns at all please contact your child's teacher (who will give a contact email address at the start of term) or email me (lynne.pearson@wingateschool.com) if I can help in any way.

Several parents have already asked what they need to bring. Following Infant staff meetings at the start of September, additions may be suggested for individual classes but at the moment your child will need :

-A plain mask (from age 6 and above) with spares in their bag in case they break. Please name!

-A non-glass water bottle (named) which can be refilled from our drinking taps

-A book bag - available from the uniform shop if you need a new one

-A morning snack and lunch in a lunch/cool bag if not using the catering service

-A named pencil case which we will keep in school at the start so it's not forgotten at home (not Nursery)

-Y1 & 2 - a writing pencil and coloured pencils - nothing else inside the pencil case at the moment.

-Reception - An empty pencil case. We like the younger children to use wider pencils for their little hands so we will provide a starter set for them.

Please make sure all items of clothing and belongings are named clearly.

I will email in September with any other information that arises, PE times, etc.

Each Friday you will receive an Infant newsletter to keep you updated on events, diary dates, etc.

I know there is a lot of information to understand but **together** we can do this. As many of us got to know during the last months, the education of our children is far more productive when Wingate teachers and parents work together.

At this point I usually say "My door is always open if you want to chat..." This time I'll say "Don't worry, please trust us in looking after your child, and email me anytime you need a chat and I'll try to help all I can"

I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 6th September!

Miss Pearson
Head of Infants

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Welcome back! Firstly, I would like to welcome Ms Donnelly and Mrs Mark, who will join our TA staff team. I would also like to congratulate Mr Johnson and Miss Gould on the birth of their healthy son. Mrs Dadswell will be covering Mr Johnson's paternity leave. Could I please ask you to check your emails regularly for updates and information from me, Mr Macrae or the school Office and it is VITAL that we have up to date contact information for everyone (emails and telephone numbers). Policies and procedures are still in place, and we very much look forward to getting the children back into their school routines with their new teachers.

Please read the attached documents carefully as there are many changes to the school day.

The start of the day: All Junior children arriving by private car will enter the school through the second entrance on Calle Mirador de la Cumbrita.

The school entrance will open from 08.45 - 08.55. Parents and carers will drop their child/children off.

Please note;

1. **Parents will NOT be permitted entrance into the school at any time of the day.**
2. **All children must be wearing a mask on entry to school. Children will not be permitted to enter if they are NOT wearing a mask.**
3. **At 08.55 School Gates will be locked. Students arriving after this time will not be permitted to enter school until 09.45 and will have to wait with their parents in the school car park.**

Masks: Children will need to be wearing a mask to be permitted entry to school every day. The Junior children will need to wear their masks throughout the day at the following times;

1. Morning lines
2. Break time
3. Lunchtime play
4. During Spanish classes
5. When moving around the school, ie going to the toilet etc.

There will be no access to the Tuck Shop so children will need to bring their own snacks to school for Break time. The children will also need to bring their own personal water bottles to school, as usual. There will be access to fresh drinking water in school but if you know your child is likely to drink more than one bottle in the day it would be advisable to provide your child with 2 full bottles.

As mentioned above, parents will not be permitted entry to the school premises. There will be no face to face meetings for the time being. Therefore, if you wish to contact a teacher please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher via the office and they will get back to you as soon as possible. Similarly, the children's Home School Records/Diaries can be used as a communication tool between home and school.

Due to the Covid restrictions all children will need their own personal equipment. Some items will be provided by the school, however, they will need to bring in the following equipment;

- Named pencil case
- Pencils
- Coloured pencils
- Writing pen - Year 6 only
- Highlighter pens
- Scissors
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- Coloured pens for polishing - Year 4 and above. The children know what these are
- 30cm Ruler.

All items will need to be named. They may if they wish bring their own hand sanitizer in a small, **NAMED** bottle which can be kept in their trays.

Uniform: Please be vigilant of the labels on your child's school uniform, including masks, as we are unable to keep any lost property in school and can only return property when it is clearly labelled.

The end of the day: The Junior hometime will be staggered. The Junior children will exit the school through the second entrance on Calle Mirador de la Cumbrita.

Please note the following hometimes:

1. 15.30 - Year 3
2. 15.35 - Year 4
3. 15.40 - Year 5 and 6

Please be prompt in collecting your child/children. **It is essential that children are collected from school punctually.** I will continue to send my weekly newsletter with updates and new information.

We all look forward to seeing the children on Monday 6th September.

Mrs L Estevez
Head of Juniors

SENIOR DEPARTMENT

Welcome back to all our students on Monday 6th September. It is very important that you read and understand the changes to the school due to COVID-19 but we all remain in masks at all times. Only when eating should students remove their mask and then they **MUST** socially distance themselves from other students. Please take some time to read the Protocols we have in place and the changes to the school day. The morning of the 6th will be given over to teaching our students how the new protocols affect them: arrival and departure from school; in classrooms; moving around the school; break times and lunches; all the changes to make them and staff as safe as possible.

New students will be nervous of course but there will be lots of staff and Prefects on hand to show them around and introduce them to their peers. As you can see in the Protocol, it remains that no parents are allowed in school. We will look after them. If you wish to speak to any teacher, please email the office for an online Meets appointment.

At 9.00 am the School Gates will be locked. Students arriving after this time will not be permitted to enter school until 09.45 via the Junior entrance controlled by the office.

Remember no tuck shop, so: Refillable water bottles - full on arrival, **NO** glass bottles please; snack and lunch (if not having hot lunch); absolutely **NO** caffeinated drinks e.g. red bull etc

Uniform: remember there is no lost property so it is very important that all your child's uniform is named; particularly sweatshirts, tracksuits etc, any items students may remove and forget where they left them! Some school uniform items are not available so students can wear their PE kit each day until supplies arrive.

To comply with COVID-19 restrictions it is paramount that all students have their own personal stationery supplies **as sharing equipment will not be permitted.**

Normal stationery supplies to include:

Black writing pens

Pencils

Pencil sharpener

Coloured Pens/pencils

Highlighters

Ruler

Compass

Protractor

Eraser

Scientific Calculator

All preferably in a sealed bag or pencil case with your child's name clearly marked on it.

Chromebooks must be fully charged as there will be no facility for sharing other chargers. Only school supplied chromebooks can be used. Phones remain banned in school.

We now provide termly Senior Newsletters which celebrate the success of our students and provide important information. Please look out for them and regularly check the school website for any new information and updates.

Should you have any concerns please email me and I will try my very best to help.

Thank you for your continued support.

Colette Tolfrey

Head of Senior School