



**WESTGATE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Striving for Excellence • Caring for Children



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Council England

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Wednesday 22nd April 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

Starting Westgate Nursery Summer Term 2020

As you know, your child should be starting Nursery at Westgate this week, but due to the Coronavirus closures, is unable to do so. We have been thinking about how to manage this for you.

Later on this half term, we will write to you to confirm the attendance pattern you would like for your child from September, but for now, we would like to welcome your child virtually to our school. To do this, we have added your child to an online learning tool called Evidence Me, which is specifically for children in Nursery & Reception. Once set up, your child's key worker will be able to suggest learning activities and you will be able to upload photos and information which will contribute to your child's learning profile, which will continue to build until the end of their time in Reception.

Over the next few days you will receive an email with an invitation to activate your Evidence Me parent account. This may go in to your Junk or Spam folder so please look out for it. It will arrive from an email address called donotreply@evidence.me. If you do not receive this email by Monday 27th April, or have any problems with setting up or using your account, then please email Mrs Norton at j.norton@westgateprimary.co.uk.

The following link has helpful information for parents/carers about using the new system:
<http://help.evidence.me/evidence-me-help-for-parents/>

Once you have set up your account, you can access it via a web browser or by downloading the App from your usual App store (search for **Evidence Me by 2Simple**). When we upload anything on to your child's page you will receive an email notification so you know to check it.

In addition, you have a login for our VLE (virtual learning environment). As you already have a child at Westgate, from tomorrow your parent login should be valid for all your children on our roll.

These short 'how to' videos (links below) will help you to explore how the VLE works. Your child's Nursery class page will be updated each week with suggested learning activities. These could form the basis of what you decide to upload to Evidence Me. You can log in to the VLE from our homepage, <https://www.westgateprimary.co.uk/website>.

[Child's view](#)

[View class page as a parent](#)

[View homework as a parent](#)

While the things we are putting in place are clearly no substitution for Nursery provision, we hope that we can begin to get to know your child through this interaction (and vice versa) and thus be even more ready to welcome them to the beginning of their school career, once schools are able to reopen. We also hope that the suggested learning activities will support you as parents while the Lockdown continues. We also know how busy you all are at the moment looking after your children, managing general day to day life in these challenging times, and many of you trying to work from home at the same time. Therefore we do not want to add any pressure for you to be doing lots of extra things and there is no expectation about the amount you need to share with us. This system is here for you to use as is appropriate for you and your family, for us to begin to get to know your child.

Our induction meeting at the end of February seems a world away now. At the moment we have no information as to when schools might reopen. If it is decided that it is safe for us to reopen before the summer holidays, I will be back in touch to discuss the possibility of your child starting Nursery properly. If this is not possible, we will plan for induction to be rescheduled for September.

In the meantime, I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well in these strange times. We are all looking forward to seeing you all when things return to something more like normal, in the not too distant future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Carpenter', written in a cursive style.

Helen Carpenter
Head teacher