



أكاديمية جيمس ويلينغتون واحة السيليكون
GEMS Wellington Academy
SILICON OASIS

WSO Primary Opening Guidance – 2022/23

Introduction



This document has been put together to ensure you are fully aware of the reopening guidance at WSO Primary in the 22/23 academic year. This will include opening times, pick up arrangements and the ongoing regulations and protocols implemented at WSO to ensure the school adheres to the UAE's current vigilance regarding the COVID global pandemic.

Please can I politely ask that you familiarise yourselves with these guidelines and continue to support the school. **Where there is change compared to the end of last year, these points within the guidance will be written in bold and in a dark red font.**

It is important to remember that we are still within a global pandemic, therefore it is all of our responsibility to stay safe by remaining vigilant and cautious at all times.

As always, the entire staff at WSO will do everything they can to make the upcoming school year the best it can possibly be for your children.

Welcome back!

Mr. Mike Stewart
Primary Principal



School Timings

We are removing the staggered start to school timings for the beginning of the 22/23 year. The following timings will be in operation:

School Gates Open from 7.20am (you can drop off your child to the class or via the school's drive through).

* If you arrive at 7.20am - you will be asked to wait with your child at reception until 7.25am

Internal doors to the year group corridors will open at 7.25am

* Parents (Nursery – Y4) and the children should follow the colour coded signs to their year group corridors.

Classroom doors will open at 7.30am and the class teacher will welcome your child in from this time.

* Children and parents will not be allowed access to the classroom / or for discussions with teachers before 7.30am



Specific Year Group Timings

Year group	Classroom Drop off	Collection Monday - Thursday	Collection Friday Only
Nursery	7.30am - 7.45am	Collection time arranged with Nursery Teacher	11:15 – 11:30
FS1 & FS2	7:30 am – 7:45 am	1.30pm	11:15 – 11:30
Year 1 & Year 2	7:30am – 7:45 am	2pm	11:30 – 11:45
Year 3 & Year 4	7:30 am – 7:45 am	2:50 pm	11:50 - 12.00
Year 5 & Year 6	7:30 am – 7:45 am	3:20 pm	11:50 – 12:00

- **Registers will be taken for all year groups at 7.45am**
- **Children who are not register by 7.50am are classed as late.**



Entry, Pick-up, and School Visit Procedures



FS1– Year 4

- Students and parents from FS1 up to Year 4 can be dropped off and picked up from their classrooms. Parents and guardians can park around the school site (from 7.20am) and enter reception wearing a mask / face covering. At 7.25am the internal doors will open and the children can be led to their classroom following the colour coded routes that will be clearly signposted. Parents / Guardians are then able to walk back to reception to exit the building or use the Café (Slices).

Year 5 – 6

- Students in Year 5 and Year 6 can be dropped off from 7.20am and access their corridors from 7.25.
- Students in Year 5 will enter the primary building independently via Entrance 2. (see the plan on the next slide).
- Students in Year 6 will enter phase 4 independently.

Nursery

- Nursery Students can be brought into school via the private nursery entrance (see plan on the next slide).

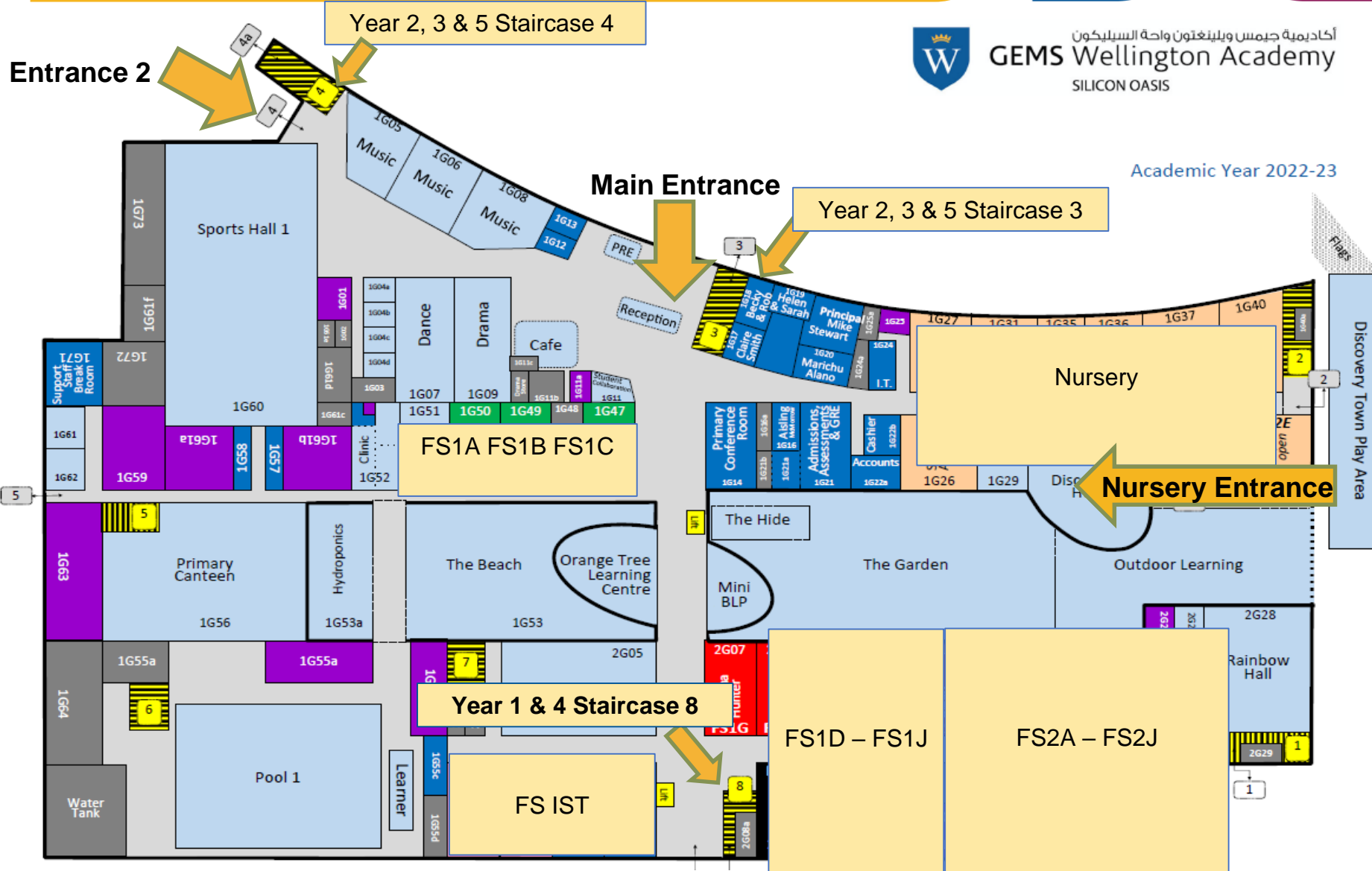


Site Plan



أكاديمية جيمس ويلينغتون واحدة السيليكون
GEMS Wellington Academy
 SILICON OASIS

Academic Year 2022-23



Sibling Club / Little Falcons



If you have siblings in the school or have difficulties picking up your child at the end of the academic day, then we will offer the Little Falcons after-school care. **You will need to sign-up for the provision at the beginning of the year to ensure your child is allocated a place. Juliet Freeman has already sent out a sign- up form.** If you secure a place for your child for our after-school provision, the pick-up times are as follows:

Year Group	End of the Day
FS1 & FS2	2pm/2.50pm/ 3.20pm/4.30pm
Year 1 & Year 2	2.50pm/3.20pm/ 4.30pm
Years 3 & Year 4	3.20pm/4.30pm
Year 5 & Year 6	4.30pm

Please note:

FS2-Year 6 after school care will begin from Thursday 1st September.

FS1 will begin on Monday 3rd October. This is in-line with previous years as the younger students need shorter days at the beginning of the academic year to support their transition into school. Thank you for your understanding.



Primary Uniform Expectations



All children must wear the correct uniform with the correct accessories.

All students will wear their PE kit on PE days.

Students who have dance, as part of their PA lessons, will wear their PE kit.

FS and KS1 students are permitted to arrive to school in outdoor learning clothes.

Students who have squads, or enrichments after school, must wear the correct uniform throughout the day and change after school, in designated changing areas.

Only official uniform wear must be worn.

Masks

- **All staff, visitors, and students 6 years or older, except those with an approved exemption, must wear masks as soon as they enter the school. Non-compliance will lead to denial of entry to the school.**
- Anyone over 6 years old (all students in Year 2 and above and when a student turns 6 in Year 1) should wear a mask, unless they have a mask exemption permit. Masks can be removed when eating or during physical activity.
- As a school, we strongly advise that students in year 1 also wear a mask, in preparation for when they turn 6 years old. We often had FS2 students wearing masks last year.
- Our teaching staff responsible for younger children are encouraged to wear transparent masks / face shields to enable lip reading and facial expression
- Students should bring their own masks to school and have spares just in case.

STAY AT HOME IF UNWELL

- **Students, teachers and school staff must stay home if unwell**
- We adopt an over-cautious approach to any children showing symptoms of being unwell and we need all parents to support this.
- According to the DHA, KHDA and GEMS Policy, children and staff should stay home from school/work if displaying any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:
 - **Fever - you should not go to school/work if your temperature is greater than or equal to 37.5°C. People need to be fever-free for 24 hours without the help of a fever-reducing medication before they return to school/work.**
 - **Muscle aches/pains or fatigue**
 - **Diarrhoea or nausea**
 - **Shortness of breath and difficulty breathing**
 - **Cough, Headache, Sore throat**
 - **Runny nose or nasal congestion**
 - **Loss of sense of smell or taste**
- We understand the pressures around childcare and work commitments; however we cannot compromise the health and safety of our community and it is better to be overly cautious with this.



Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19

- The class teacher will refer students with Covid-19 symptoms to the school clinic for further screening as per the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) guidelines.
- Parents must seek medical advice for further management before returning to school, which must then result in either;
 - **Doctors note clearly stating the child is ‘fit to return to school’** as they have clearly diagnosed another cause of the symptoms.
 - **Doctor recommending a PCR test** – student can only return to school after symptoms have subsided and a PCR test is negative.
- **Receiving a positive PCR test**
 - If a student gets a positive PCR test, school must be informed immediately so we can ‘contact trace’ close contacts at school, and the student should then follow home isolation guidelines which will be issued by the DHA.
 - Students can return after symptoms have subsided and the de-isolation certificate from the DHA should be emailed to the school clinic. (medical_wso@gemsedu.com) as soon as it is received.
 - Our Academy Medical Team will be in touch to offer guidance and support students with their return.



Face to Face/Remote Learning



- All learning at WSO is face to face.
- Students may be able to undertake distance learning in *exceptional* circumstances only, such as health emergencies. These are assessed on a case-by-case basis by the school leadership team

Nursery Remote Learning Provision

- There is no remote learning provision for any child who is in the nursery classes.

Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2)

- 3 live zoom sessions during the week (academic or well-being focused).
- Asynchronous lessons provided via Seesaw.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3 – 6)

- 3 - 5 live zoom sessions during the week (academic or well-being focused).
- Asynchronous lessons provided via Seesaw / MS Teams for student to access independently.



Physical Distancing

- One metre of physical distance is recommended in all common areas, at reception desks, and where different groups of students, staff, and visitors mix.
- We have designed our classrooms and learning spaces to have enough space for groups to maintain a physical distance of a recommended one metre per child when possible.
- We will utilise outside space whenever possible, however only when the temperatures are safe to do so.
- At times when we are not able to meet the required physical distancing, we will take all necessary measures to ensure the health and safety of the school community.



How will we keep WSO safe and clean?

- WSO will have a robust deep clean, including sanitising all areas, before opening to our students
- The school premises will be cleaned and sanitised at the end of each school day, in line with DM guidelines
- Common areas and frequently touched surfaces (i.e toilets, stairwells, waiting areas, etc.) will be frequently cleaned and sanitized
- We encourage a strict hand washing regime and we provide younger children with handwashing assistance.
- Hand sanitisers are available throughout the school premises, but kept out of reach of young children. We provide only hand sanitisers approved by Dubai Municipality
- Anyone who enters the school will wear a mask.
- To further minimise spread of Covid-19, we adopt 'paperless' processes where possible that rely on the effective use of technology.
- Posters describing effective handwashing techniques are placed near all sinks.



STS Bus Transportation

- All schools must adhere to RTA guidelines for further details on the management of COVID-19 protocols
- All passengers, with the exception of children younger than 6, must wear a mask on the bus
- Bus hygiene will be maintained following appropriate sanitization standards in accordance with the guidelines set by the RTA for public transportation
- If a bus passenger tests positive, we would inform the passengers immediately adjacent (front, side, rear) of the positive case so they can monitor themselves for symptoms, but they can continue to come to school as long as they remain asymptomatic.

