



LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher - Mrs Sally-Anne Barnard-Taylor

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21st July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

In accordance with the latest update from the DfE, 'Schools Covid-19 Operational Guidance July 2021', and advice from the Local Authority, I am writing to confirm arrangements for September. Step 4 of the roadmap marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people how to protect themselves and others and avoiding further disruption to children's education.

Four key control measures will continue operating in our school:-

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone

- Frequent and thorough handwashing or use of hand sanitiser
- The 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach to respiratory hygiene

2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes

- Additional cleaning of surfaces and high contact points during the day

3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated

- Windows will be kept open to aid natural ventilation
- Internal doors will be kept open to create a throughput of air
- Some external doors will be kept open

4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19

- Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do
- Pupils and staff should not attend school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or for other reasons which may cause the passing on of Covid-19
- Anyone in school who develops symptoms, however mild, will be sent home and asked to follow public health advice
- Staff will recommence asymptomatic testing prior to returning to work in September and will carry out testing twice a week

Although we are planning a return to 'normal', there are some elements of our school day which will be maintained. Please see over for further details.



Drop off and Collection

All children should be at school ready to enter when classroom doors open at **8.45am**. Registration will take place at 8.50am. Please ensure your child is on time each morning. Pupils in Years 3 to 6 are expected to enter the school grounds independently, whenever possible. The school day will finish at **3.15pm**. Specific details for the collection point for each year group will be emailed separately. The one-way system will remain in operation.

Face coverings

These are no longer required but we respect the decision by individuals to continue wearing them, if they wish.

Self-isolation and Bubble Closure

Bubbles will no longer be required. Where there is a confirmed positive case of Covid-19, the child and their family will need to follow public health advice and isolate, however classes will not be required to close. NHS Test and Trace will be responsible for notifying close contacts rather than the school, however we shall continue to work closely with them and act on their advice.

Food vouchers will be issued to the families of pupils who are entitled to benefit related Free School Meals, if they need to isolate, and remote learning will be provided through Teams.

Covid Tests

When children present with Covid-19 symptoms, a PCR test is required. Lateral flow device tests are for the purpose of asymptomatic testing and are not appropriate for primary school aged children.

Classroom Seating

Teaching staff may choose to group tables together, instead of in rows, where this layout will support the children's learning.

PE Kit

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on days when PE is scheduled. Please note there will be no PE on the first two days of term (Thursday and Friday, 2nd and 3rd September); you will receive notification of PE days at the start of term. If you are purchasing PE kit over the summer holiday, please note that your child requires a plain, white t-shirt and navy blue or black shorts. In cooler weather, a plain, navy or black fleece or sweatshirt should be worn. Suitable footwear (trainers) should also be worn. Earrings must be removed and long hair tied back. **Please ensure items of clothing - particularly school sweatshirts - have name labels.**

Bringing in Items from Home

We shall continue with children bringing in the following items only:-

- A water bottle
- A packed lunch, if required
- A book bag (available from the School Office) or other small bag containing child's reading book and reading record book (plus spellings book, times tables book or word tin, depending on year group).

The reduction of equipment being brought into school has had a positive impact on the school environment and we wish to continue with this. We ask that children refrain from bringing in large bags/backpacks.

Assemblies

Different classes will start to come together in the hall for assemblies. The hall will be well ventilated.

Breaks and Lunchtimes

The Reception Class will continue to use their outdoor area for continuous provision throughout the morning.



Years 1, 2 and 3 will have morning break together outside on the playground/field, followed by Years 4, 5 and 6 together. Lunchtime will be 12 noon until 1pm for all year groups. All children will eat their lunch in the hall. The school lunch menu will return to normal.

School Events

We shall consider reinstating some of our events over the course of the next academic year. However, we shall continue to exercise caution with regard to the number of people we allow inside at any one time. We also hope to hold some of our LWSA (Lionel Walden School Association) events again too.

Lions' Den Breakfast and After-School Club

The Lions' Den will open as normal from 2nd September providing wrap-around care from 7.45am until school opens at 8.45am and from 3.15pm until 6pm. This is now situated within the main school building. If you require any further information, please contact Mrs Clarke in the School Office.

Pre-School

Our Pre-School will be offering up to 30 hours of provision from September. The morning session runs from 8.55am until 11.55am and the afternoon session runs from 12 noon until 3pm. The all day session runs from 8.55am until 2.55pm. Further information is available from Mrs Clarke in the School Office.

Communication with School

We are proud of our communication between parents and school and encourage you to continue emailing the school (our preferred option) with questions or information about your child including when they are unwell. Telephone calls are also welcomed.

Whilst our planning is for a return to 'normal' in September, we also have an outbreak management plan should there be an outbreak in our school or local area. There is always the possibility that some of our current measures may need to be reinstated at any time. **Whilst this information is being circulated now, please be aware that it is subject to change at any time and we ask for your understanding should this happen, even at very short notice.** We shall continue to follow government guidance and advice from the Local Authority. **Please check your emails towards the end of the Summer holiday for any updates.**

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and understanding over the last year. Although the pandemic has impacted negatively on some aspects of our lives, there have also been many positives including how pupils have demonstrated their adaptability and resilience in responding to the changes they have encountered. Parents and staff have worked very well together to minimise the impact of the lockdown on our children's education.

As term ends tomorrow, on behalf of all the staff, I wish you a very happy, safe and relaxing Summer holiday - we all look forward to seeing you back at school on **Thursday 2nd September.**

Yours sincerely

S A Barnard-Taylor

Mrs S A Barnard-Taylor
Headteacher

