



# LEAGRAVE PRIMARY SCHOOL



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***'STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE, LEARNING FOR LIFE'***

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Covid 19 Update: School Arrangements September 2021**

As you will know, from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July, the government plans to reduce the current restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives. The scientific evidence continues to show that the risk to children is extremely low and the majority of adults have now been offered the vaccine, providing some protection.

In light of this, further guidance has been published for schools to reduce the restrictions, but we have been asked to continue focusing on the following control measures to reduce the risk in schools:

1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone**
2. **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes**
3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated, maintaining a comfortable temperature**
4. **Follow PHE advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19**

We will be making cautious amendments to our risk assessment from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 based on the advice provided, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our school community. This will include an 'Outbreak Management' section, which may require the return of some restrictions if Public Health confirm that the school has had several cases over 14 days. We must still work together to keep each other safe. Please find below a summary of the changes:

### **School Times & Drop Off/Pick Up Arrangements**

Year	Nursery	Reception	1	2	3	4	5	6
Gate Opens	AM: 8.30 PM: 12.00	8.45- 8.55am	8.45- 8.55am	8.45- 8.55am	8.45- 8.55am	8.45- 8.55am	8.45- 8.55am	8.45- 8.55am
Drop Off	<b>Early Years Entrance</b> Drop off at classroom doors			<b>Main Playground Entrance</b> Where possible, please drop off at main gate; if your child is not comfortable with this, please follow the one way system and drop off at the year group door				
FINISH	AM: 11.30 PM: 3.00	3.10pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.25pm	3.25pm	3.25pm	3.25pm

- There is no requirement for staggered start and finishes, but we do ask that families make sensible decisions to keep themselves and other safe, ensuring appropriate social distancing
- Face masks are now optional on the main playground, but we are asking that visitors to the school continue to wear them in the main entrance foyer
- Apart from Nursery, the school day will return to an 8.45am start; drop off is quick and causes less congestion on the playground, as long as families use the one-way system
- Pick up is busier and takes longer, so there is a slight staggering of finish times to reduce congestion and we ask that parents wait in the relevant areas outside classroom exits, at least 3 metres back from the classroom door to support social distancing; teachers have been reminded to be prompt





- Exit doors will no longer be opened earlier than the agreed finish times; in the case of a parent picking up from Yr2 & Yr4, the parent will need to wait 10 mins for the Yr4 door to open ensuring appropriate social distancing
- Children will no longer have their temperature taken on entry; a temperature check will only take place if a child presents as being unwell
- Frequent and thorough handwashing/sanitising will continue to be in place for all children and staff

### The Curriculum

- Despite a comprehensive intervention programme to support any gaps in missed learning, the school will continue to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum of all subjects
- There will continue to be strong emphasis on pupil health and wellbeing; parents should notify the class teacher or the main office if they are worried about their child's wellbeing
- There is no requirement to group children in consistent bubbles anymore, however children will continue to be taught mainly in their class groups with wider curriculum opportunities within their year groups, such as break, lunchtimes and some mixed teaching
- At the moment, the school's risk assessment will not encourage close contact mixing across year groups; break and lunchtime locations will still be separate
- Lunches will continue to be delivered to classrooms during Autumn 1; this will be reviewed for Autumn 2 to ensure a smooth and safe transition back to the dining room
- Children will continue to be provided with their own pencil cases and equipment
- Windows and doors will be kept open where safe to do so, ensuring a comfortable temperature
- Breakfast Club and After School Club will resume from 6<sup>th</sup> September; further information regarding this provision will follow shortly
- Morning Sports Clubs will re-start on 6<sup>th</sup> September for Yr2,3,4,5 on separate days; a letter to book your child's place will be sent home on 1<sup>st</sup> September
- Homework will resume on Google classroom from September
- Assemblies and Year Group Performances will be reviewed for Autumn 2

### Attendance and Travel Abroad

- School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age
- All children and young people should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend
- Any families traveling abroad must also follow any travel restrictions; parents travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return; **all children should be ready to return to school on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021**

### Visitors to school

- Parents will still be encouraged to communicate with the school by phone or email; where this is not possible, parents can access the main office via the intercom at the front gate; there is a maximum occupancy of 5 people in the main foyer and all visitors must wear a mask
- Meetings between families and staff will continue to be offered remotely if possible; where this is not possible the visitor guidance will be followed ensuring appropriate arrangements to keep all parties safe
- The autumn parent consultation that will take place via School Cloud again; dates will be confirmed in the autumn term

### Remote Education

- We will continue to support those children who are required to isolate but have no symptoms via remote learning opportunities on Google classroom
- In the event that a whole class is sent home to isolate due to health and safety, the class will return to 'Live Lessons' via Google Meet





- We will make reasonable adjustments for those children with SEND, so that they can successfully access remote education
- Free school meal support and technology will be available for those families who require support

### **Important Reminders on testing, self-isolation and confirmed cases of COVID-19**

#### ***When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test***

- Children, staff and other adults with Covid 19 symptoms should not come to school and must book a PCR test or isolate for 10 days – other household members including siblings should continue to isolate until a test result confirms a positive or negative test. If the test is negative, all children/staff can return to school, if the test is positive the children/staff must continue to isolate for the remaining 10 days
- If a child develops symptoms during the school day (new continuous cough, high temperature or loss/change of smell/taste), parents will be contacted for immediate collection with siblings. Parents will arrange a PCR test for the child and the family will follow the self-isolation guidance
- For everyone with symptoms, they should avoid using public transport and, wherever possible, be collected by a member of their family or household
- Children who are isolating will resume remote teaching and have access to FSM and technology if required. This will be actioned by the school admin team

#### ***Asymptomatic testing (Lateral Flow Device - LFD)***

- School staff are invited to continue with twice weekly home tests from September 2021
- Testing will continue to be widely available over the summer and kits can be collected either from your local pharmacy or ordered online
- Families are encouraged to take a lateral flow test before they return to school in September

#### ***Confirmatory PCR tests***

- Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19
- Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate along with family members
- If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms

#### ***Tracing close contacts and isolation***

- Close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace; education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing
- From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by Test and Trace; this means that whole bubbles will no longer be sent home
- Instead, children will be informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so

This is a lot of information to take in, but we wanted to share these updates with you as soon as possible. If you have any questions about the changes, please contact the main office, who will be able to help.

This has been a difficult year for everyone with many of us facing different challenges. The one aim we all have in common is to ensure that the children at Leagrave receive the learning and wellbeing support that they require to thrive. I know we can continue to work together to achieve this.

Kind regards,

Mrs E Gillespie  
Headteacher

