



Luckington Primary School
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Dear Parent,

Thank you for your patience whilst we have been making plans in relation to the government's ambition for more year groups to return after half term. I would like to give you more information about this now, but please note that the information in this letter is based on our current plans and is open to change.

I know that many of you are torn in deciding whether to send your children back to school. On one hand, the Department for Education is telling us it is safe to do so, but on the other, the British Medical Association and the National Education Union are saying that it is too early.

This has made planning incredibly difficult. The most important thing for you to know, is that much like you, the staff and governors of our school are absolutely desperate to have the children back as soon as it is safe to do so. I am sure that as the weeks have gone on, your perception of the importance of school in a child's life will have grown. Being in school influences so many parts of a child's development, particularly those related to their social relationships. We know that home learning cannot quite replace the school experience, but we also know that you are all working incredibly hard to give your children the best education possible, whilst managing jobs, wider family and some of the hardships that this lockdown has brought. I am therefore convinced that when a level of normality is finally resumed that the children will have no trouble settling back into school life and catching up if they have fallen behind. We will make this our priority when the time comes.

As I am sure you will have already surmised; operating using social distancing in a primary school will be extremely difficult. Any measures we are putting in place will simply reduce risk; **they will not eliminate it altogether.**

We have made some **provisional** plans for **June 2nd**. You can see them in more detail on the pages attached. This is a summary based on a far more detailed risk assessment. This risk assessment has been produced in conjunction with advice from the Department for Education, Wiltshire County Council and the National Education Union and has been agreed by the school's governing body. June 1st was originally intended to be a Teacher Development Day, but we will use this now to brief the staff on the measures we are putting in place and to prepare the school for the return of the children.

On Tuesday June 2nd we will welcome back Year 1 and Year 6 to school, with a view to phasing in the reception children at a later date. I have spoken to the parents of the reception children to explain the thinking behind this. Without going through it in detail, the main reason is simple: reception children cannot be expected to socially distance to the same level as the older children. We have to consider not only the physical health and mental well-being of our children, but also our staff and local community. We therefore want to see what is achievable with Year 1 and 6, before

bringing Year R back into school. I cannot give a timescale for this, but I will endeavour to keep reception parents updated.

The school will be closed to children (apart, if necessary, for those of key workers) on a Friday. This is to allow teachers to plan and prepare lessons for the children in school and at home and to allow time for our cleaning company to do a deep clean of the building.

It is important to note that you will not be fined for non-attendance if you decide not to send your child in. Please contact us if you have a child in Y1 or Y6 and are NOT planning on sending them in.

For those parents of children in the 'other' year groups, you will be keen to know when they can come back into school. When the time comes, it is important to note that because of the size of our school and the number of staff that we have, to ensure social distancing, we *may* have to think along the lines of a split timetable. Again, we will keep you updated. In the meantime it is vital that home learning carries on for those not in school. This is unlikely to change significantly, but please bear with us if we need to recalibrate to the new situation.

The measures we have put into place are designed to last for the first few weeks of term. As time goes on, we will listen to the advice from the local authority, government, BMA and teaching unions to help us decide when we should take the next steps. Our first priority will always be the safety of our children, teachers and parents.

Thank you for your support and understanding; please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Best Wishes

Mr Cook

Tuesday 2nd June
Proposed Return to School for Years 1 and 6

Please read this information carefully. The following are the key parts of a more detailed risk assessment, based on Department for Education, Wiltshire Council and National Education Union advice. These plans are open to change. We will resend this document before June 2nd to acknowledge any changes we need to make.

Organisation

The children will be split into two groups: Year 1 and Year 6. Any children of key workers will be with their usual teacher. Each group will not come into contact with the children in the other group during the school day. The adults in each group will not come into contact with the children in the other group.

School Week

We will be open to the children Monday (apart from June 1st) to Thursday. On a Friday school will be closed to the children - apart from the children of key workers (if necessary). This is to allow our cleaning company to carry out a weekly deep clean of the school. It will also give teachers time to plan and resource lessons for the children in school and those at home.

Start and End of the Day

We will stagger the start and end of the day.

Year 1 can come into school between 8:50 am and 9:00 am. Parents should drop the children off at the bottom of the classroom steps, but should not enter the cloakroom. They should then exit the playground via the back gates.

Year 6 can come into school between 8:35 am and 8:45 am. If parents are dropping them off, they should do so at the front or back gate - do not bring them in.

Year 1 hometime will be between 2:45 pm and 2:55 pm. You can collect the children from the classroom in the same way that you drop them off.

Year 6 hometime will be between 3:00 pm and 3:10 pm. If you are collecting your children, they will be dismissed from the front door.

There will be signage in the school grounds to guide you.

There will be no playground supervision at the start of the day, so parents and children should not congregate on the playground.

Do not allow your child to play with their friends at the start and end of the day and move off the school site quickly.

Only one parent to drop off each child.

Do not park directly outside the front or back of school during the above times.

If your child is in Class 2, but feel that you are going to be late and overlap with the Class 1 times, please wait until 9:05 am before bringing them into school. Similarly, with home time, if you have a child in Class 1 and you are going to be late picking them up, please come after 3:10 pm.

There will be no before or after school clubs.

Lunchtimes and Playtimes

Lunchtime and playtimes will be staggered. The children will be with their group and teachers for this period. The children will play outside but will be asked to stay 2m apart.

The children will eat their lunch in the classroom. The pub will continue to provide meals, but we are in consultation about the best way to do this. The children can bring a packed lunch if this is their normal routine.

Equipment will be cleaned each day and not shared between the groups.

Hygiene

Handwashing will be monitored and done at regular, timetabled, intervals throughout the day.

The children will watch a handwashing video on a daily basis.

Key surfaces (i.e. handles and tables) will be cleaned during every break.

The school will be cleaned each evening and a deep clean will take place once a week.

Each child will have a bottle of anti-bacterial gel and a box of tissues on their table.

Lidded bins will be provided.

Please ensure that your child has been to the toilet and washed their hands before they come into school.

In the classroom and around the school

Each child will have their own work station, positioned so that they are 2m away from other children in all directions.

Each table will have all the things your child will need for the day.

Teachers will maintain a 2m distance from the children as much as they possibly can.

PPE

The current advice is that PPE is not needed for teachers and children. However, this is down to personal choice. We have a stock of masks, gloves and aprons for staff. These are intended to be used where the staff member has to get close to a child, for example, if they had an injury that needed tending to or if they show symptoms of Covid-19.

Children or parents with symptoms

The rules regarding symptoms within a household have not changed. We should not take any risks with this. If anyone in your household displays even mild symptoms of COVID-19, your child should not come into school and follow the correct procedures for self-isolation. If they display any symptoms, we will isolate them in the head's office

and ask you to collect them. This probably sounds scarier than it actually is - please be reassured that it will be done sensitively and the room will have toys, colouring in etc. to keep them occupied.

Uniform and book bags

Your child does not need to wear uniform during this period. This will allow you to wash their clothes more regularly should you wish.

They should not bring a book bag, rucksack, or any other items from home into school. If your child has a packed lunch you can continue this as normal.

The children will not be able to use the library but we will make books available for school time.

The children will not need P.E. kits.

Please prepare them for the weather, i.e. sun cream and hats.

Fire Drills and Lockdown Procedure

We have revised these procedures and will carry out drills in the first couple of weeks.

Preparing your child for school

School will not be normal for sometime. It is important that you talk to your child about how different it is going to be and what is expected of them in terms of social distancing. We know that trying to explain the facts and reassuring them at the same time is a difficult balance. This will be particularly difficult for the younger children. We will post some videos and pictures on Google Classroom during half term to show the children what to expect.