



Langdon Primary School

1 September 2020

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back! School starts again tomorrow for Years 1 – 6. The classes and the staff are all ready and looking forward to welcoming the children back into school and back to learning. The first month will be spent revising what the children learned in Term 3 before lockdown and then learning essential new knowledge from last year's curriculum in order to prepare them for moving to new classes on Monday 5 October 2020. Our curriculum will be broad and balanced and children will study all subjects as usual. We will of course, focus on English and Mathematics teaching, but this is our priority in usual times too so it won't look too different to usual.

It probably goes without saying, but just as a reminder: pupils and their family members who have Coronavirus/Covid-19 symptoms or those who have tested positive in the last ten days must not come into school. The symptoms to be on the lookout for are:

- a high temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste – this means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Pupils and parents must also stay away from school if they have currently returned from a holiday or a visit to a country that is subject to quarantine upon return and are inside the 14 days self-isolation period. Please let us know as soon as possible if this is the case for your child. There are no exceptions to this period of quarantine and you and your child will not be allowed to attend school until their 14 day self-isolation period is complete. This is the case for staff too and one member of staff will not be returning until next week because of this requirement.

The rest of this letter has reminders for you about the start and finish times for each class; arrangements for Breakfast Club and

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after school clubs; about how to contact the school office if you need to speak to myself, Mrs Howson, Breakfast Club or your child's class teacher; what your child should and should not bring into school and how we are working to keep your child safe and cared for in the new term.

Year 1-6 children will return on Tuesday 2 September. They will return to their old classes and be with the teachers they were with at the end of last year. The times for their day are as follows:

Mrs Seccatore's and Mrs Keem's Classes (Bubble 1)	8.30am - 2.45pm
Miss Langley's Class (Bubble 2)	8.45am - 3.00pm
Mr Jones' Class (Bubble 3)	9.00am - 3.15pm

At the beginning of the school day a member of staff will come to the gate to collect the children and take them into the queue to wash their hands. Parents and carers then follow the one way system to exit the school grounds. Please take care as you walk into the roadway.

For those who need it, Breakfast Club starts again on Tuesday 2 September. The staff are ready to support the children when they come in to wash their hands before eating. Children will be in two groups according to whether they are in Key Stage One or Two. Please let the school office know in advance if your child will be attending Breakfast Club.

We will be providing school packed lunches instead of hot meals in the first instance. Children should have these meals if they are in Years R, 1 or 2 and they continue to be free of charge for these year groups under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. Children in Years 3-6 can continue to bring their lunch boxes unless parents choose to purchase a school provided packed lunch at a cost of £2.30 per day which must be paid for in advance online to the school catering company Principles.

If you think that due to a change in personal circumstances that your child may now be entitled to free school meals then please contact Mrs Howson in the office and she will talk though how to apply for these. Please consider doing this even if your child is entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals, because the school is awarded additional funding for each child entitled to free meals and we use this funding to help pay for our teaching assistants and for our intervention teacher.

Children should bring as little as possible into school. They should NOT bring pencil cases, pens, pencils or other stationery equipment, toys, hand sanitizer or anything to share with their teacher as they have done in the past. They should bring their PE kit, a water bottle filled with water, a coat in case it gets cold or rains and a book bag but nothing else. Please do not send in rucksack style bags.

School uniform must be worn including school PE kit. I am sure that most of you have ordered uniform online as requested last term and this has now arrived in school and is ready for collection. We have some second hand items of uniform and some limited stock for those of you who forgot so if you need new uniform, please speak to Mrs Howson about this.

The school office remains closed to visitors but if you need to speak to me or Mrs Howson then we are just on the end of the 'phone or an email. If need to send us a note or money or any other communication it can be sent in with your child or handed to the member of staff who is on the gate in the morning.

If your child becomes ill when in school and needs to go home, we will care for them in the usual way, reassuring them until you arrive to collect them. In the unlikely event that your child becomes ill with Covid-19 symptoms of a high temperature; persistent cough or loss of smell or taste then we will ask you to collect them immediately. We will care for them away from other children and staff until you arrive,

all the time reassuring them that they are in safe hands. Your child should then self-isolate for at least ten days (or until they feel well again and symptoms are no longer apparent) and take a test for the virus. Please let us know if you have difficulty accessing a test centre, we have limited supply of testing kits in school which we can make available to you.

We will take advice from Public Health England about how to manage the children and staff in the bubble group where the symptomatic child has been but current guidance suggests that pupils and staff who have been in the same room as the symptomatic person do not need to go home to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves or if they have been requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace which may happen if the symptomatic child tests positive for Covid-19.

After a child has been sent home with any illness we will thoroughly clean the areas they have had contact with and ensure that good handwashing takes place in order to minimise the risk to others.

At the end of the school day, parents should queue to collect their child. We will bring your child to you and then you should exit the school grounds using the one way system. Please take care and ensure that your child is aware that they will be walking on the road as they leave the school.

For this term and up until Christmas we will not be running any after school clubs. We intend to assess the children's learning in the first month and then run 'catch up' intervention sessions for pupils who look like they need a bit of support to get back to where we think they should be with their learning. If your child is identified as one who would benefit from this support, we would strongly encourage you to allow them to attend after school tuition sessions with our teachers. Research has shown that one to one or small group tuition is most effective at closing learning gaps.

We look forward to welcoming Year R parents and children on Monday 14 September 2020 at 9.10am until 12.00pm.

As we move through the next few days and weeks, this will all begin to make more sense and will become familiar. We feel confident with the arrangements we have put in place to help you and your child return to school but fully understand that you might be anxious or concerned or have questions that need answering. Please contact the staff if you need a bit of reassurance, they are happy to help. A number of parents have voiced that they are worried about the staff and of their exposure to more people and therefore potential exposure to virus risk. I would reassure you that we are all fine, we have thought through how we will return to school and are happy with what is in place. Our overwhelming concern is making school a safe, happy and vibrant learning environment for your children once again and ensuring that they feel confident and motivated to reach their potential in school and this is our priority this term. We know that we will have 'wobbles' on the way but we are ready for these too.

Yours sincerely

Lynn Paylor Sutton
Head Teacher