



Lunsford Primary School

03 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to everyone. As the beginning of Term 3 approaches, I wanted to say a huge thank you to all, for your continued support of the school and your numerous messages of support and thanks, which have been really appreciated by myself and the staff.

I am now able to share our plan for the opening of Lunsford Primary School in January to Key Worker children and Vulnerable children. The definition of Key Worker children as expressed in my last letter to you has changed. I thank everyone who completed the form which has allowed us to logistically organise the arrangements for the beginning of term on Tuesday 5th January, enabling you to talk to your child(ren) and help them to know what to expect.

Please be aware that these plans are based on the current position regarding the Coronavirus, and, as such, may change if the national or local position alter or continue.

I would like to reiterate that throughout this time, I have made it clear that all our decisions that have been made, are driven by safety first. This remains. We have carried out a comprehensive review of our risk assessment in accordance with the latest government guidelines and we are confident that we have effective measures in place. I am confident that we can make the return to school as safe as it is possible.

Who is coming back?

Key Worker children and Vulnerable children will be starting back to school from Tuesday 5th January. Parental responses have indicated that 72 children will return to school.

To reduce the chance of someone passing infection to large numbers of other children we will only be allowing children to socialise with others from one other class. Thus we will revised our Phase Bubbles in school from January with regard to the number of children who will be coming to school – Reception Class and Year 1 Class (**EYFS and Yr 1 Bubble**), a **Year 2 Bubble**, Year 3&4 (**Lower Key Stage 2 Phase Bubble**) and Year 5&6 (**Upper Key Stage 2 Phase Bubble**).

Staggered drop off and pick up

We still need to minimise crowds outside of the school at the beginning and end of the day to help maintain as much social distancing as possible. As a result, we will continue to stagger the times that the children enter and leave the school. It is very important that they are prompt for their times, being too early will impact on another group and too late will disrupt others leaving. I do appreciate how difficult this is, but hopefully if everyone is prompt and leaves quickly, it will run smoothly. Please see on the table below the drop-off time, pick-up time and location that you will need. Please ensure that all older or younger siblings remain with you when on the playground.

We are mindful that many families have more than one child so we apologise for any inconvenience the timings may cause however these are in place to ensure the safety of all. We would ask you to come to school as close to the given time as possible. A one-way system will be in place and we ask you please to

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Healthy School



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enter the school site via the front gate on Swallow Road and for you to leave the school site by the side gate. Please do not use the Brookfield entrance. Thank you for your support with this.

	Playground	Arrival Time	End of school day
Year 5 & 6	JUNIOR	8.40AM	3.10PM
Year 3&4	INFANT	8.40AM	3.10PM
Year 2	JUNIOR	8.30AM	3.00PM
Reception and Year 1	INFANT	8.30AM	3.00PM

Parents will not be able to speak to staff at drop off or pick up due to the fact of ensuring the staggered times are adhered to by all. If a parent needs to get a message to a member of staff, please continue to use the Class Dojo (or for reception parents Tapestry), as your first port of call, or email the school office. You can request a telephone conversation if you require.

Visitors to school

We will aim to have as few as possible external visitors onto the school site. This is to reduce further the risk that anyone could unintentionally bring in infection from outside. Any visitors who do need to be on the site will be asked to observe the same hygiene measures as everyone else and will be asked to keep a full 2 metre social distance from children and staff.

To support this, we would ask that parents do not come on to the school site at the start and end of the school day. If you do need to speak to a teacher or another member of staff, please try to do so by contacting the school office in advance so we can either answer your query that way or arrange to meet you in an appropriate location away from other children or adults. We know this may feel difficult for some parents and carers but your support with it is greatly appreciated. If there is anything of a more confidential or sensitive nature, you can email me direct on headteacher@lunsford.kent.sch.uk

What we will be teaching in school and for Home Learning

Teachers will organise, plan and assess remote learning for all pupils in their class. There will be a minimum of 3 hours online learning planned for each day for all pupils. This will constitute a daily maths and English lesson as well as other subjects such as topic, science and RE for example. The format will broadly follow the remote learning we put in place at the end of the last academic year. Teachers will assess the pupil's work via Class Dojo / Tapestry (EYFS) and all remote learning will be published both on the website as well as on Class Dojo. Keyworker and vulnerable children attending school will be completing the same work as those children working from home.

Uniform

Key Worker and Vulnerable children should wear normal school uniform to school. Please ensure they have a warm, waterproof coat with them each day as we want to access the playgrounds at break and lunchtimes. Forest Schools will continue and a separate message will be sent regarding which bubbles will have Forest Schools over the next two weeks.

PE will continue on Monday 11th January so please ensure children attending school on that day have appropriate footwear and clothes to be outside for PE.

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Equipment

Children in Year 3 and above are asked to bring their own pencil cases (these should be wipe able and be able to fit in their tray) to school to minimise the sharing of resources. They will need pencil, pen, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener possibly a glue stick, age appropriate scissors if possible and maybe some colouring pencils. This can remain in school so some children may have left these in school before the holidays. They will still be able to access these if so. Reading books and Reading Record Books will be able to come in and out of school.

Children will need to bring their own water bottles (named) as our water fountains will remain out of use for the time being.

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 only are permitted to bring mobile telephones to school. These will be collected by a member of staff and stored in the office during the day, to avoid pupils walking around school unnecessarily. Children in Y5 and Y6 are only permitted to bring their mobile phone to school if they and their parents have signed and agreed to the Lunsford Mobile Phone Policy and returned a copy to the school office. Please contact the School Office who will arrange for the consent form to be sent to you via Operoo. If it is not essential for your child to have a mobile phone in school, please do not permit them to bring one in.

Lunchtimes

Each phase bubble will have a separate lunchtime. Packed lunch boxes will remain in the children's bags until lunchtimes, rather than being stored on shared trollies.

Due to needing to stagger the lunch breaks, some children will continue to have a later lunch than they are perhaps used to. For this reason, we would ask that all children come to school with a healthy breaktime snack of a piece of fruit. Please note our milk supplier (Cool Milk) has advised that they have currently suspended deliveries of milk cartons, if you have ordered milk for your child, your account will be credited.

Breakfast Club

We are pleased to say that we will be offering an Early Morning Club for those Key Worker children and Vulnerable children. A separate form has been sent to parents if they would like to access this provision. The cost of each session will remain the same. They have a detailed plan, risk assessment and have clear procedures which are similar to what we already had in place.

Hygiene measures while at school

The most important things we can all do while at school are to do with hygiene. The most common way infection is transmitted is by people getting it on their hand and then touching their face. In order to deal with this risk, we will be continuing to ask everyone at school, children and adults alike, to wash or sanitise their hands at frequent points during the school day. This will include immediately on arrival, in case any infection has been picked up on the way in to school, and then frequently throughout the day. We are aware that some children, especially younger ones, need some support to wash their hands really thoroughly and we will of course make sure that support is provided.

Secondly, we will continue to be taking additional steps to ensure that all hard surfaces, especially those touched by different people, such as door handles and toilet facilities, are kept clean during the school day. Thirdly, we will need to be very careful about any coughing or sneezing, as germs can easily be spread in this way. As we explain below, children with a cough should not be sent to school. However, if a child coughs or sneezes during the day we will need them to use a clean tissue and to flush it away immediately afterwards.

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It would be very helpful if parents and carers can reinforce this message and practise always using a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

Please ensure your child has tissues in their pockets when coming to school.

Not coming to school if symptomatic

We are asking parents to be very vigilant for any signs of infection in their children, and should they occur, **not to send the child to school**. The symptoms to look out for are a new continuous cough, a temperature or a loss of sense of smell. Should any of these occur, you **must** keep your child at home. Testing will be available for any children or family members who develop these symptoms, and we can tell you how to access the test if you contact us.

If children develop any of these symptoms while in school, we will need to send them home **immediately**. We will need your support as parents or carers to manage this. **Please ensure that the school office has your up to date contact details**. If your details have changed over the Christmas holidays, please do let us know.

A child who develops symptoms which could be COVID-19 will immediately be taken away from other children and supervised safely until they can be collected. At that point we will tell you how you can quickly get your child tested for COVID-19.

What will happen if someone tests positive

In the relatively unlikely event that someone, either child or teacher, tests positive for COVID-19, we will immediately contact the DfE and inform the Local Authority. We will give them, and the Test and Trace service, the information they need to identify the risks that others may have become infected, and we will follow their instructions immediately about containing that risk. In some cases, this could mean asking children or adults with whom the person has come into contact to stay at home for a period of time to make sure the infection does not spread any further. If your child displays symptoms or has a positive test it is imperative you liaise with the school and give us as much information as possible. For example, when the test was taken or the time the child became symptomatic. The more information we have as a school the easier it is for the DfE and the Local Authority to support the school in deciding the proportional response needed.

If you have any questions regarding the information within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me on headteacher@lunsford.kent.sch.uk or your class teacher.

I do hope you have had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

Kind regards,

Mr G Anscombe

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