



Lunsford Primary School

06 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families had a wonderful half term break.

Given the recent announcement from the Government regarding the national lockdown from Thursday 5th November, the DfE have updated its guidance for schools and I wanted to update you on these and the changes we will need to make as we go forward towards Christmas.

Firstly, the government are adamant that schools will not be closed throughout this period. I am planning for us to remain open throughout the winter and spring and, although we do have plans in place should we be forced to close, my focus is on keeping the school open and making it as safe as possible for all who use it.

Each **Phase group (EYFS and Year 1/Year 2 and Years 3/ 4 and Years 5/6)** will continue to remain for drop off and pick up as well as break times and lunchtimes, and will remain as much as is practically possible, a separate entity and the children will not be grouped or play or interact with children from a different phase group. This means that whole school events such as assemblies and whole school singing events cannot take place.

However social distancing within each class group will simply not be possible as young children will naturally and automatically interact with each other and with the staff in a way that prevents this from being achieved over a sustained period of time. It is important to be clear with you that it is not my intention to attempt social distancing between pupils and staff within their class group but that, by remaining in their phase groups, the number of different people the children come into contact with on a daily basis continues to be dramatically reduced.

There are a few reminders here about the precautions we are taking and also a few new bits of information so please do read through everything carefully:

1. Staggered start and end times will continue until further notice. Break times and lunch breaks will be staggered across the school and will be administered on a rota basis which will be internally organised.
2. Children and adults will continue to wash their hands throughout the day for at least 20 seconds. A child's temperature will be taken if they say they are feeling unwell by a member of staff using a non-contact thermometer.
3. All equipment will be wiped down at the end of the day and all areas of the school will be thoroughly cleaned. Frequent touch points around the school will continue to be additionally wiped down during the day and at the end of every day.
4. Please could I encourage you to wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up your children from the playground. This will help protect you and your families, especially if the weather is wet and groups are congregating under umbrellas or trees for example.

Headteacher Mr G Anscombe BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

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5. You are free to make appointments to speak with your child's class teacher over the phone or via email (office@lunsford.kent.sch.uk) or through Tapestry/ Class Dojo. Face to face contact should be limited to exceptional circumstances when information needs to be passed in an emergency. Please only come into the school building when strictly necessary and only by appointment, you will be asked to wear a face mask within the school building. Please note that the school office will continue to be closed throughout this time although you can make contact with the school office via telephone or email.

When dropping children off and collecting them please observe 2 metre distance from other parents. Please could we also request that only one adult drops and collects a child.

6. I'm afraid that clubs will continue to be suspended.

If any member of your household develops symptoms then you should self isolate and book a Covid test as soon as possible. If the test results are negative then your child can return to school immediately (as long as they feel well enough to do so). If the test results are positive then please do inform the office as soon as possible and we will advise accordingly.

Although this next step presents us with some operational challenges, I am very grateful to you all for your continued support. We have also updated our contingency plan should the public health situation change in the coming weeks and months. It is also important to recognise that these arrangements are subject to satisfactory staffing levels and therefore might have to be changed if absolutely necessary.

Very best wishes and many thanks,

Gary Anscombe
Headteacher
Lunsford Primary School