



12th July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re - 3rd September 2020 School Opening

I am writing to you to explain, in brief, our plans for reopening fully in September. Underpinning our plans is the need to make sure that everyone in the school community is safe and so they are based on the latest guidance from the DFE. All our children will be back in school and our before and after school care will restart and run as normal. There is quite a bit of information so some statements are a little blunt!

Attendance

After lock down it is important that we get children back into school so that we can make sure they make up all the missed learning since March. From September our models for attendance return to normal.

It is a parental responsibility to make sure children attend school regularly. We expect attendance for children to be 96% and we will not authorise absence for holidays in term time. Where parents do not follow procedures we do use fixed penalty fines. This includes repeated late arrival.

If you have a specific concern about the return to school please email me on head@lordstreet.lancs.sch.uk and mark 'urgent attendance concern' in the subject box.

Bubbles

The guidance allows us to increase the sizes of the bubbles from the current fifteen. This is to allow schools to operate effectively while reducing the risk of a Covid outbreak. We will use year group bubbles for arrival and pickup then children will operate in class bubbles for most of the day and will play out in 'zones' in the playground. All our plans are based around these bubbles.

Good Hygiene

The most important safety measure will remain the regular handwashing, the 'catch it, bin it kill it' for coughs and sneezes and the 'catch it in a 'dab' for coughs. Children will be washing hands frequently so will have access to hypo allergenic moisturiser if needed. We will also be increasing our cleaning regime in school to make sure that frequently touched surfaces and equipment are regularly cleaned. The school will **not** close on Friday afternoons for a deep clean.

Start and End of the day

To reduce the risk we will stagger the start and end of the day. We will use three of the school entrances for this.

School Start	8.45 am	8.55 am	9.00 am	9.05 am	9.10 am
Reception Playground			Class 1		Class 2
Lower Playground gate	Year 3	Year 4		Year 5	
Top Playground gate	Year 1	Year 2		Year 6	

School End	3.20 pm	3.30 pm	3.15am	3.40 pm	3.25 pm
Reception Playground			Class 1		Class 2
Lower Playground gate	Year 3	Year 4		Year 5	
Top Playground gate	Year 1	Year 2		Year 6	

We must ask that only one person drops children off and that you use the 2m spots that are marked on the school wall. We would also ask that you do not wait in the area between the two gates so for the lower gate you line down the hill and around the corner and for the top gate – up the hill and around onto Cragg Street. It is important that you do not arrive early to reduce numbers waiting to come in. Remember we are still maintaining social distancing where we can and so reducing crowds is important.

Lunches

Children will be able to order school meals as normal.

In reception, year one and year two any child can have a school meal at no cost under the Government's Infant Free School Meal Scheme. It is still worth applying for free school meals if you are receiving benefits as each child allows us to receive additional funding for the school through the pupil premium. We can use this money to help fund extra teachers, better teaching approaches and more support for families. It also means we have more money to bring in exciting visitors and we can make trips cheaper!

Uniform

The guidance says that there is no reason to wash clothes any more than normal so the uniform policy will return to normal. We are changing the model slightly – the new uniform is available through Moonline Uniforms on Standish Street in Burnley. Remember that we do a monthly uniform order through parent pay to collect from school. We are stopping using the burgundy sweatshirts. From now on we want children to wear a navy blue v neck jumper or cardigan. It does not have to have the school logo. We would like all children to wear a white shirt rather than a polo shirt along with a school tie.

Book Bags/ PE kit etc..

There are no restrictions on bringing book bags, PE kits or packed lunches into school. Children must not bring in toys from home.

Before and After School Care (ASC)

The ASC will run as normal and places Miss Whitaker has contacted existing and prospective families re places. Contact the school office if you need support. The ASC will run as two bubbles – Reception, year one and year two will use the ASC building and all other years will use the hall.

Greggs Breakfast Club

We cannot run the Greggs Breakfast club in the same ways as this year. It is an important club and so we are planning to bring toast and a glass of milk to each class in school. Miss Hutchinson is negotiating with Greggs to work out the details.

Learning

All our children have missed a significant chunk of school and will come back with big gaps in what they should know. Added to this is the emotional challenge they will face after such a long absence. We know it will be tricky for some and so our next term's curriculum is about easing them back into school to rebuild confidence and school behaviours while making sure we catch up key learning quickly.

We have timetabled in lessons to help them deal with their emotions and worries as well as catch up lessons for maths and reading. The guidance emphasises that all schools will have gaps and that the best way to close them is to teach well and so this is our first priority. Good support and good teaching as a first response then extra help where needed. We will keep you informed as the term goes on.

Homework

We send work home each week and this will continue next term. One of the most important things you can do to help your child is to hear them read, read stories to them and talk about books. This

should be something you do all the time but particularly this summer to help get them ready to come back to school. If, when we send work home, you have any questions or concerns use class dojo to contact teachers for help (but not over summer!)

Face Coverings

Some families will wish children to wear face coverings. The guidance does not recommend this in school as children tend to play with them. This encourages them to touch their faces which increases the risk of transmission. If you want your child to wear a mask to school, then you should remove it before they come onto the school grounds. Advice is that disposable masks should be placed in a covered bin and reusable masks in a plastic bag which should be sealed. In removing the mask, the front should not be touched. If you send your child into school with a mask, we will treat it as a disposable mask and place it in a covered bin. Anyone touching a face mask must immediately wash their hands.

Covid cases

- Staff and pupils must not come into school if they are displaying the symptoms of Covid.
- Anyone displaying the symptoms in school will be isolated and then sent home from school
- The school and parents must engage with the test and trace process
- Any child (their parents) or staff member with symptoms must book a test
- They will need to provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with if they test positive
- Parents should inform school immediately of the results of a test.
- If they are negative and feel well then they can return.
- If positive they should follow the stay at home guidance and school will contact Public Health England's Health Protection Team.
- If we have a confirmed case we will give additional information at that time.

Shielding

Guidance is that all children should be able to return to school. Shielding advice pauses on 1st August. If you have a concern then please contact school. It may be that we ask you for advice from your GP about protective measures they think your child needs.

Repeat Lockdowns

Staff have worked hard to make sure everyone could access our home learning. This will be the same if there is a second lockdown. Work will be a combination of paper work packs and internet based learning. Video lessons and zoom type models will probably be used. We want to improve access and actual teaching (to help you!) so Mrs Wainman is sending a simple questionnaire out. We want to know what internet access is like and what it equipment you have so we can see if a laptop lending scheme might be possible. Please watch out for this on dojo and facebook.

Risk Assessment

The risk assessment will be available on the school website later this week.

Contacts

If you have any questions please contact me on head@lordstreet.lancs.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

Duncan Hetherington
Head Teacher