

Ingrow Primary School
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Long Lee Primary School
Cherry Tree Rise
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9th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! It has been so lovely to see and chat to you all again over the last few days. There have been so many happy, smiley faces. All the children have been really excited at being back again with their friends and teachers. As I said to the staff, school has come alive again!

Over the last 2 days, our attendance has been 94.6% and 97.3% respectively, which is amazing. I had read that schools last week had attendance figures of 80%, so I was thrilled to see so many of our children back again. I am sure the figure will fluctuate during the next few months with the usual seasonal bugs but also if any children or families experience symptoms of Covid-19. Please notify us as soon as possible if anyone in your immediate family or anyone you have had contact with experience any of the symptoms of coronavirus and follow the clear Government guidelines regarding self-isolating and testing.

As you may be aware, over the last 3 days, I have been observing our staggered start and finishes and after speaking to many of you and to the staff, we have decided to approach the start and end of the day drop off and pick up differently.

From tomorrow, Thursday 10th September, we will be having a 'soft' opening and closing. The school gate will open just before 8.40am each morning, please do not come onto the site before that. EVERY class will open their classroom doors at 8.40am and will close them at 9.00am. This is to allow siblings to be dropped off at the same time and so parents and carers do not have to do 2 or 3 loops of the school grounds. Although I have heard a few parents saying it's doing their daily steps the world of good! The same procedure will happen at the end of the day; the school gate will open just before 2.40pm. ALL classroom doors will open at 2.40pm and will close again at 3.00pm.

This will allow a 20 minute drop off and pick up time. Please DO NOT ALL arrive at 8.40am for 'drop off' or at 2.40pm for 'pick up'. The 20 minute 'window' should allow all parents and carers time to drop off safely and will hopefully help to alleviate some of the traffic issues as well. We are hoping that you will spread out the 'drop off' and 'pick up' times and fully utilise the 20 minute window.

If your child arrives after 9.00am, you will need to enter via the main office. If you arrive after 3.00pm, the doors will be closed and you will need to collect your child from the main office. In this case, they may have to attend the after school club and you could be charged £1.50 for the session.

Nursery Children

The above does not apply to Nursery as their start time remains at 8.30am until 11.30 for the morning session and 12.15pm until 3.15pm for the afternoon session.

Reception Children in Plum & Berry

The 'soft' opening and closing times will apply but the arrangements for lunchtimes on Thursday and Friday next week remain the same. So for our Reception children in Plum and Berry the following will apply.

Thursday 10th September - Wednesday 16th September

Berry

Start time - 8.40am - 9.00am

Finish time: 11.45am

Plum

Start time - 12.45pm

Finish time: 2.40pm - 3.00pm

Thursday 17th & Friday 18th September

Berry

Start time - 8.40am - 9.00am

Finish time: 12.45pm

Plum

Start time - 11.15am

Finish time: 2.40pm - 3.00pm

Monday 21st September

For Berry and Plum children

Start time: 8.40am - 9.00am

Finish time: 2.40pm- 3.00pm

Year 3 Yew and Year 3 Beech

The entry door for BOTH year 3 classes will now be where Year 3 Yew have been coming in. This is between the Nursery entrance and the Year 2 entrance. We hope this will work better.

Parents with Pushchairs and Buggies

We realise the situation with pushchairs etc is not ideal on exiting the school, where all the steps are. If parents with pushchairs and buggies prefer to arrive later then we can allow them to come back through the one-way system, using the entrance to Plum Reception class and then going through the Nursery playground, exiting by the gate by the Year 2/Nursery entrance and then going through the main gate entrance.

In order to make all of this work we need your support in not all arriving at the same time to 'pick up' or 'drop off'. The plan may need 'tweaking' again but hopefully you will agree that this should be a better way of starting and ending the school day.

Please can I also remind you that we are only allowing one parent or carer on site. I have also noticed that some of our parents and carers are not adhering to the social distancing guidelines. We politely ask that you adhere to these and respect our drive to keep all children, staff and parents and carers as safe as we possibly can.

Thank you in advance for your support

Yours faithfully,

Mrs S Holdsworth
Headteacher
Long Lee Primary