

Leonard Stanley C. of E. (Aided) Primary School

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Head Teacher: Andrew Green

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*Loving and Learning for Life,
as Jesus taught us.*

Re: Arrangements for potential June 1st return

Dear Parents,

The details for the classes initially scheduled to return (Pre-school, YR, Y1 and Y6) are given below along with guidance linked to social distancing measures. It is really important that you begin to prepare your child for a possible return as school (certainly for the foreseeable future) will not be the environment that they remember. It is in our nature, as a church school of caring professionals to be a tactile, sharing and close community, however, sadly this simply does not fit in with the health and safety measures inherent within social distancing hence our children need to be prepared for this.

As you are aware, school attendance is currently voluntary; the government have said that no fines for non-attendance will be levied. School however, still has a responsibility to check on your child's wellbeing so if for whatever reason, you choose not to send your child to school, I hope that you will continue to work with us to fulfil our duty of care.

Please bear in mind that the arrangements below are based on current government expectations and anticipated school numbers. As a caveat we need to bear in mind that the return of other year groups or increased numbers of key worker children will very likely change the picture again.

Coming in to school

- Prior to returning, **continue to emphasise regular and thorough hygiene measures** such as robust handwashing, coughing / sneezing into elbows or tissues, not touching faces and sadly for the children and our staff not hugging their teachers / TAs. Try to show the children (especially the younger ones, what a 2m gap looks like).
- **Children are NOT expected to wear school uniform.** This should support parents in enabling children to wear clean / fresh clothes daily.
- **Children SHOULD wear trainers or sensible outdoor shoes** for outdoor-learning / physical activity. **NO SANDLES PLEASE!**
- Make sure that children wash their hands thoroughly with soap and warm water before leaving your house. We would also recommend that on returning home, they shower / bath and change their clothes. Their school clothes should be washed. Shoes worn at school should be removed at the door. These measures should all help to reduce any possible spread of the virus between home and school.
- Please **walk to school** if you can. This will support social distancing at the gate. If you have to drive, please "DROP AND GO" to avoid congestion.
- If your child (particularly Reception / Year 1) is reluctant to come in after their time away, please bear in mind that staff should not hold their hand and walk them in. If they are too distressed, you may need to take them home and prepare them for the next day.
- If you need to collect your child during the school day, please contact the office so that this can be carefully managed.
- If your child is in Reception / Key Stage 1 **and will not require** a school packed lunch as you are sending in your own, please contact the school office or Mrs Evans so that we don't over-order supplies.

- If you are providing your child's packed lunch and a fruit snack, **please put it in disposable / recyclable plastic bags.** We are trying to minimise the transfer of items between home and school. Children may bring in a plastic drinks bottle but this should be thoroughly cleaned / disinfected daily at home.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER A HAT AND SUN-CREAM.** Younger children will need this applied before school. Staff cannot apply it for them.
- Children will not require school bags. We do not want them in school as they will increase the risks of cross-contamination and we are not using cloakrooms. We will provide your child's equipment which they will be told not to share with their classmates.
- **PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD IN IF THEY ARE EXHIBITING ANY OF THE COVID19 SYMPTOMS. FOLLOW GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE ON THIS. WE APPRECIATE THAT HAYFEVER CAN BE AN ISSUE AT THIS TIME OF YEAR BUT WE CANNOT TAKE THE CHANCE THAT HAYFEVER SYMPTOMS MAY ACTUALLY BE COVID19. PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME IF YOU SUSPECT THEY ARE SUFFERING WITH HAYFEVER.**
- If your child exhibits symptoms in school, they will be taken to an isolated area and you will be called to collect them. We respectfully ask that you do this immediately so as to help protect the other members of our school family. Following on from this we will implement the Govt Covid 19 guidance on dealing with a suspected case.

The school day will remain approximately the same length but with staggered start and finish. To test procedures, the first week will begin as follows:

Day 1 (Y6 only + Key Worker children) These children are older and will allow us to see how the measures work without stressing the system / staff too much

Day 2 (Y6 + YR + Key Worker children)

Day 3 and on-wards (Y6 + YR + Y1 + Key Worker children)

Please note, Leonard Stanley C of E Primary (like many schools in the cluster) have discussed breakfast and out of school clubs. We have decided not to run them for the time being as we have significant issues with social distancing in the Elliott Building coupled with the high likelihood of cross-contamination between children out of their "Learning Bubbles".

Staggered starts will be as follows with myself by the main gate to oversee:

8-45:

Y6 (but no parents on site) will enter via pedestrian gate and proceed to the Y6a and Y6b lines on the KS2 playground. These will be marked at 2m gaps. Parents will be texted next week with their child's mini-class name and the adult in charge i.e. Y6a or Y6b. Staff will bring them in at 2m gaps via external doors and ensure hand-washing in class. Coats and lunchboxes will remain with the children at their work-station – no cloakrooms are to be used as social distancing is not feasible. **IF Y6 ARE ARRIVING / LEAVING UNACCOMPANIED, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO INFORM THEIR TEACHER OF THIS AND REMIND YOUR CHILD OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL DISTANCING ON THEIR JOURNEY TO AND FROM SCHOOL**
Early Years children with 1 parent / pushchair can also enter but by the vehicle gate (one leaf will be open – furthest from the pedestrian gate)

Early Years are operating their own one-way drop-off system

8-55:

Y1 (no parents on site) enter via pedestrian gate and proceed to the Y1a and Y1b lines on the KS1 playground. These will be marked at 2m gaps. As above, parents will have been texted with their child's mini-class name i.e. Y1a or Y1b and the adult in charge. Staff will bring them in at 2m gaps via the Y1 and Y2 external doors and ensure hand-washing in class. Coats and lunch-boxes at work stations (as Y6).

9-05:

YR (no parents on site) enter via pedestrian gate and proceed to the YRa and YRb lines on the KS1 playground. These will also be marked at 2m gaps. As above, parents will have been texted with their child's mini-class name i.e. YRa or YRb and the adult in charge. Staff will bring them in at 2m gaps via the Hall and YR external doors and ensure hand-washing in school. Coats and lunch-boxes at work stations (as Y6 / Y1)

NB – Key Worker children not in the returning year groups will not have a specified stagger time as they will go straight into school via the KS2 orange doors. As with the other children, we want to avoid having parents / other adults on site and will be encouraging contact via email / phone only.

Staggered Home Times (parents allowed on site so that we can visibly see them collect their child):

3-00

YR / Y6 (and Early Years) – 1 parent stands per 2m marked spot on KS2 or KS1 playgrounds (where the children line up in the morning). Children sent out to their parents via external doors. Parent and child stay on the marked spot until ALL children from that mini-class have been released – to prevent crossing on the playground. When all children are out, the socially distanced line moves off.

3-10

Y1 / Key Worker children - 1 parent stands per 2m marked spot on KS2 (Key Worker) or KS1 playgrounds. Children sent out to their parents via external classroom doors. When all children are out, the socially distanced line moves off

Please don't worry if the above sounds confusing. It will be clearer in practice and the children will soon get the hang of it!

The School Day

We are operating as 7 mini-classes (up to 15 pupils per class) with the intention of **closing on Friday (after lunch) to all except Key-worker / Vulnerable children**. Staff in school will support with extra Friday afternoon cleaning / disinfecting resources etc as readiness for the following Monday.

Children will recognise the basic format of the school day, although playtimes and lunchtimes have been staggered to support social distancing. We will be minimising movement around the school with the intention that children stay within their own "learning bubble". They will eat at their desk and will only leave for toilet visits, outdoor play or outdoor learning. Although the government have recognised that social distancing within the primary school environment is extremely challenging, we will be doing our utmost to adhere to guidance as far as the environment and ages of the children will practicably allow.

Parents of children in YR, Y1 and Y6 who choose not to send their children in will be signposted to resources on the school website (such as BBC Daily Lessons or Oak Academy) – no new Home Challenge grids will be created for these year groups.

We will focus on Maths and English / Phonics in the morning and initially PSHCE-based activities in the afternoon. I do not expect normal learning to begin immediately as these have been strange and challenging times. Staff and parents are best positioned to judge when they feel children can step back into more formal teaching and I will fully support them in this. I expect there to be a lot of talking in the first couple of weeks. Children and adults will need time to adjust to the new norm and will hopefully find TTT (Time To Talk) cathartic and helpful. As a church school, we will bring our values and Bible stories into this to help the children both mentally and spiritually.

For social distancing reasons and for trying to preserve the integrity of the learning bubbles, SEN support by Mrs Howard cannot take place in its usual form. She will of-course work with the staff in planning for the needs of children requiring extra support.

We will also focus on "Outdoor Learning" in our afternoon planning. The current situation and our whole-school focus make this an ideal opportunity to get the children learning outside (or having outdoor PSHCE sessions) as much as we can.

Formal PE in the hall and assemblies will not take place as we cannot socially distance in those situations. We will however have staff-run collective worship in class when the children have settled back in.

Please talk to your child about their day and remind them that the strangeness is simply a part of trying to keep everyone healthy and safe. Get back into bedtime routines as soon as you can as this usually takes about 8 days and be prepared for issues between siblings if the other child is not yet back.

I fully appreciate that there is a lot to take in (definitely an understatement) but if there is one thing that has not changed in the past few months, it is the genuine care and affection that our staff and governors have for our school family. Although the environment and some of the organisation will have changed, our smiles and laughter have not and you can be absolutely assured that those key aspects of a child's learning will still be found in abundance at Leonard Stanley Primary.

With warmest regards to you all,

Mr Green

