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Monday 1st March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are delighted to be reopening our school to all pupils on Monday 8th March. We have reviewed our plans and procedures to ensure a smooth and safe transition back to school is in place once again, and have considered the Government guidelines throughout our school reopening planning process to ensure that our children can all return to school safely.

I understand that some parents may have concerns around sending their child back to school but please rest assured that we will follow all of the guidelines set out by the Government. As a school, we have already implemented and tested control measures with pupils who have attended the school setting in the Autumn Term and also during this most recent lockdown period, which continue to be robust. The safety of our pupils and staff is paramount.

I ask you to carefully read the following points which outline some important features and expectations when pupils return to school on Monday 8th March.

ATTENDANCE

The government have outlined that school attendance will **be mandatory** from **Monday 8th March**. We will resume first day calling procedures for all pupils who do not return to school and where parents have not made contact. Please contact the school about any individual concerns so that we can discuss our plan with you and how we can support you further. Current Shielding advice for all adults and children will end on 31st March. This means that pupils who have been on the shielded patient list can return to school after this date, as can those who have family members who are shielding. Some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional will need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school. Please advise the school office if your child is a shielded patient and we will advise on our remote learning offer – it can also be found on our website.



STAGGERING ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE TIMES

We will continue to stagger the pick-up and drop off times for each year group. Each year group will be in the same bubble group so that staff can move between the classes, but the classes (in the same year group) will remain separate apart from playtimes. **Pupils will arrive at school each morning using the playground gates ONLY where they will walk directly to their classrooms.** Class teachers will continue to lead their classes at the end of the school day, dismissing pupils when collected.

Parents will still not be allowed on the school grounds unless contacted by the school for the collection of their child. Where possible communication with teachers and the office should be done via email or telephone.

It is very important that parents and pupils stick to the time slots allocated per class to ensure the safety of our children, staff and parents. **Once pupils enter the school grounds, we ask that parents leave the surrounding school area to prevent large gatherings from forming.** Please remember to observe social distancing of 2m when dropping off and collecting children at the school gates. If you have siblings in another class, we ask parents to wait with their child until their class is called upon.

Arrival time	
Year Group	Allocated time
6	8.45am
5	8.50am
4	8.55am
3	9.05am
End of day collection time	
Year Group	Allocated time
6	2.45pm
5	2.50pm
4	2.55pm
3	3.00pm

ISOLATING BUBBLE GROUPS

Pupils will continue to not take part in whole school assembly or any other whole school activities, including celebration assemblies and performances. This also means that we will not be able to offer any after school clubs in the Spring Term. We will be reviewing our after school provision plans at the end of the Spring Term and will inform our parents of any changes made.

Staggered Break times		
Year Group	Allocated time	Playground
6	10.15am- 10.25am	1
5	10.20am-10.30am	2
4	10.35am-10.45am	2
3	10.45am-10.55am	1

SCHOOL MEAL PROVISION

- Year group bubble will continue to have their dinner at staggered times.



- School dinner options will be available each day. Please remember to top up your parent pay account.
- Year group bubbles will be separated from other year groups in the school hall. Only two year groups will have dinner in the hall at any one time.

Staggered Dinnertimes			
Year Group	Allocated time	Allocated time	Playground
6	11.45am-12.10pm (play)	12.10pm-12.35pm (eat)	1
5	11.50am-12.15pm (play)	12.15pm-12.40pm (eat)	2
4	11.50am-12.15pm (eat)	12.15pm-12.40pm (play)	2
3	12.00pm-12.25pm (eat)	12.25pm-12.55pm (play)	1

MATERIAL/EQUIPMENT BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

- We will limit resources that come in and out of the school building.
- Children will only be able to bring a lunchbox and water bottle.
- Children can bring in a small bag to carry their reading books. Returned reading books will be placed in a box in your child's classroom for 72 hours before it is recirculated. Oxford Owls e-reading will still be available for all pupils to access at home.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

- Children must wear full school uniform.
- Children will continue to wear their PE kit (track suit permitted on colder days) to school on PE days. PE days for each class remain the same. We will send a separate reminder to parents regarding your child's PE days at the end of this week.

SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES

- Children will be encouraged to maintain a safe distance as much as possible within their own bubbles, limiting interactions.
- Staff will however, continue to maintain social distancing of 2m with both the children and other members of school staff although please be aware that this may be more difficult when working with younger year groups. Staff will avoid close face to face contact and minimise time spent within 1 metre of anyone.

CLASSROOM ORGANISATION

- Classrooms will continue to be organised with forward facing desks where possible and staff will avoid close face to face contact with children and minimise the time they spend within 1m of anyone.
- Classroom based resources, such as books and games, will continue to be used and shared within the classroom; these will be cleaned regularly, along with all frequently touched surfaces.
- All pupils will use their own 'resource pack' containing pencil, rubber, ruler etc. Please do not send pencil cases into school.
- Windows and doors will be open to improve ventilation.
- Children will take part in class-based assemblies within their bubble.



KEEPING PUPILS AND STAFF SAFE

- Frequently used equipment/furniture etc (e.g. door handles/dinner tables/desks) will be cleaned regularly – at least 3 times a day if not more. Internal classroom doors will remain open.
- Children will be reminded and supported to wash/sanitize their hands regularly throughout the day. This includes: when pupils arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating.
- Posters will be displayed round the school to remind children to wash their hands regularly.
- Children, as per guidance, would not be expected to wear masks or other PPE. Children may wear masks to travel to school if you wish them to however they will be asked to remove them and give them to yourselves or throw away in a bin (if unaccompanied) before entering the building or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them.
- Staff will wear PPE where necessary
- If any child or a member of staff shows symptoms of Covid-19 they will be sent home and self-isolation procedures would have to be followed by this individual.
- Staff will engage in rapid testing using Lateral Flow Devices where available, which includes taking two weekly Lateral Flow Device tests. Primary age pupils will not be tested with LFDs.

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

- Complying with the control measures in place within the school including new hygiene rules are non-negotiables.
- Children's noncompliance with the rules will mean that parents will be called on the first instance. This is due to the severity of the situation and to ensure the safety of all staff and pupils. Pupils may be excluded for persistent poor behaviour and for deliberately breaking the rules. "Our expectations of behaviour will remain high."
- Online behaviours- It is important that the children are kept up-to-date with e-safety and how to behave whilst using online applications. Please see our updated e-safety policy on our school website- www.limesfarmjuniorschool.co.uk for more details.

Our school pastoral care team will work with families to support pupils struggling to reengage in school by providing support in overcoming barriers for attendance and behaviour. It is crucial that we work together with the whole family to ensure the best outcomes.

ENGAGING WITH THE NHS TEST AND TRACE PROCESS

- Schools will ensure that staff members and parents/carers understand that they will need to be ready and willing to book a test (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>) if they display symptoms.
- Staff and pupils must not come to school if they have symptoms and will be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school.
- School will follow local health protection team advice.

REMOTE LEARNING OFFER- Google Classroom

- Remote learning provision will not continue from Monday 8th March unless:
 - a local lockdown is implemented again
 - an entire class or year group bubble is advised to self-isolate



- an individual child is directed by a health care professional, in writing, not to attend school

PLEASE REFER TO OUR REMOTE EDUCATION OFFER AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

HOMEWORK

● Homework will be set on Friday on a weekly basis via Google Classroom on, including other learning resources such as Times Tables Rockstars, Mathletics and SPAG.com.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

● There will be no educational visits at this time as per government guidance.

We want all our families to return to school with confidence. The staff are all really looking forward to seeing all of the children back and supporting them in their return to school. If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

S Pardalis

Mrs S Pardalis

Headteacher

