

LEIGH XII APOSTLES' RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEL PAN LANE, LEIGH, WN7 5JS

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1st March 2021

Dear Parents /Carers,

We were all delighted to hear the news that children will be able to return to school on **Monday 8th March** and very much look forward to welcoming them all back. I know this will come as a long awaited relief for some of you. Whilst there is light at the end of the tunnel we are not out of the woods yet and the virus has not gone away. I know that some parents may still be anxious about their children returning to school, however the Government has made it clear that it is mandatory.

We have all been grateful of the notice given by the Government which has given us time to digest the guidance and update the school's risk assessment. We know that the new variant of the virus is more transmissible and therefore the way to control the virus is through the stringent routines and procedures we have in place to prevent the transmission and through our response to any infection. This means that safety measures set out in September will be mirrored as children return to school. We all need to work together to implement the systems of control to create a safer environment for pupils and staff and reduce the risk of infection. It is vital that we still limit contact between pupils and implement stringent hygiene measures.

Social Distancing: children will still be assigned to a 'year group bubble' and we will endeavour to ensure that these bubbles do not mix as much as we can, and where practical.

Staggered Times and Entrance/Exits: In the interests of keeping everyone safe we will continue with the staggered start and finish times, drop off and pick up points. It is vital that we avoid parents congregating on the school premises. Only 1 adult is permitted to enter the school grounds to either drop off or collect a child. If parents drop off more than one child they must drop off and pick up at the earlier times.

Please be on time as coming early or late will lead to an increased number of people gathering which we need to avoid. Please see details of start and finish times, drop off and collection points in the **attached timetable**.

Hygiene: children are now use to washing hands with increased regularity and this is still the case. They must follow good respiratory hygiene: coughing and sneezing into elbow or tissue (catch it-bin it-kill it).



Through learning and loving we will follow Jesus.

Belongings: We need to restrict the belongings that children bring in from home to reduce the risk of spreading germs.

Therefore, **no bags** or stationery should be brought in from home. The only items needed are: Lunchbox (if bringing their own dinner) which should be a Tupperware or plastic box that can be wiped (**NO FABRIC LUNCHBOXES**) a Coat and Sunhat (if needed). Children can bring a water bottle.

Uniform: Just as before children will be required to wear school uniform. Due to the requirement of increased ventilation in the classroom it can get cold, therefore children are permitted to wear the red school hoody and black jogging bottoms even on days when they are not doing PE. Reminder children should wear **plain**, preferably black trainers or shoes, **NO LOGO**.

It is important that children have a warm waterproof coat for outdoor play as they do play outside in all weathers with the exception of extreme downpours.

PE: Children must not bring PE kits to school but instead will be required to wear their kits on their PE day and if they attend one of the year group after school sports clubs that day also. They can come in plain black leggings or jogging bottoms worn over their PE kit: black shorts and red school T shirt with the school logo. They can wear either their school jumper, cardigan or a red hooded top. The uniform suppliers stock the hooded tops: £10 for a plain one and £12 for one with the school logo.

PE Days

Rec	-	Wednesday
Year 1	-	Thursday
Year 2	-	Wednesday
Year 3	-	Thursday
Year 4	-	Friday
Year 5	-	Monday
Year 6	-	Tuesday

Homework: This will continue to be set electronically. This avoids books being taken home and will include electronic books to read. However, we also recognise the importance of reading a physical book and therefore your child may also bring a book home on occasions and these will be wiped down when returned to school or taken home.

Breakfast Club: This will be fully operational from Monday 8th March. If your child has already been allocated a place there is no need to re-apply, however, if you wish to reserve a place or cancel an existing place please email the school by Thursday 4th March at the latest on Parents@twelveapostlesleigh.co.uk

Can I remind parents that they should **NOT** use the main car park but instead should enter school through the infant playground when dropping children off at Breakfast Club. This again reduces the footfall on school grounds.

The policy for Breakfast Club is on the school website under the parent section.

Toast and Milk: The money for this must be sent to school in an envelope on Monday 8th March with your child's name clearly marked. For the remainder of this term is **£2.00 toast £4.00 milk** and **£6.00 for both**. This will then be made to order.

After School Sports Clubs: Mr Moore will commence after school sports clubs week beginning 8th March. To avoid the bubbles mixing these will be open to specific year groups one night per week and will avoid contact sports. When possible these clubs will be held outside.

Monday	Year 3	Football	3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Tuesday	Year 2	Multi skills	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm
Wednesday	Year 4	Benchball	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Thursday	Year 5	Basketball	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm
Friday	Year 6	Rounders/Badminton	3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Dinner Time: Lunch will be a mixture of eating in the classroom with Reception and year 1 bubbles eating in the hall. The cost of a school dinner is £2.35 and should be paid through Evolve as detailed in the newsletter.

Mr Moore will be running the following year group lunchtime clubs:

Monday	Year 5	Football	12:00 pm -12:30 pm
Tuesday	Year 6	Cross country	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm
Wednesday	Year 2	hockey	12:00 pm -12:30 pm
Thursday	Year 3	Athletics	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm
Friday	Year 4	Rugby	12:30 pm -1:00 pm

Playtime: These will be staggered so the bubbles do not mix. The playgrounds will be divided into 2 so that 2 year groups can go out to play but remain apart.

COVID Symptoms

Although we will do everything possible to keep everyone COVID-safe within the school environment, there is no guarantee that we will not have positive cases in the months ahead. If a child presents with COVID symptoms in school, they will be sent home and asked to take a test. If a positive case is reported in school, there is still the possibility that class bubbles will need to isolate for a 10 day period. Remote education will be reinstated if a whole bubble has to isolate.

If anyone in your household, shows symptoms of COVID-19, you must not send your child into school, you must isolate and organise a test and let the school know of the result as soon as possible via telephone.

I cannot express enough how important it is that you adhere to the isolation guidelines as this will prevent the risk of infection.

A copy of the updated risk assessment will be posted on the school website.

Please speak with your child about their return to school. Make this as positive as you can – explain how good it will be for them to see their friends again, to be able to work with their teachers and enjoy some of the social time with their peers. Please also remind your child about social distancing and hygiene measures and keeping themselves and others safe.

Finally, can I re-iterate how impressed I am that you have shown great resilience in keeping learning going – whether that be academically, through your support with the work completed, or through many learning opportunities that may have arisen as a result of spending time together as a family.

Well done everyone! We look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 8th March**.

Kindest Regards.

Mrs Newton, Headteacher