



20th August 2020

Dear parents/ carers,

School opening update: Return to school in September

I am writing to let you know about procedures and systems that will be in place when we return to school in September. We have taken considerable time to ensure that our school environment is as safe and welcoming as possible. While many elements of schooling will seem familiar, there will be inevitable changes and alterations to systems and procedures designed to keep your children and our staff as safe as possible.

It is strongly recommended that you read the government's guidance for parents linked below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

In order to open the school for all pupils in September, we must:

- *Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have COVID-19 symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school*
- *Ensure that pupils and staff clean hands more thoroughly than usual*
- *Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it', bin it, kill it' approach*
- *Introduce enhanced cleaning, including frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.*

DFE guidance also requires us to 'properly consider' the following, and put in place measures to suit our particular circumstances:

- *Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.*

In specific circumstances, we are also required, where necessary, to wear PPE. This will be if we need to deal with a symptomatic pupil or member of staff. Some staff may wear PPE, such as a face visor, if the circumstances require it.

To implement these measures, we will be:

- *Increasing cleaning regime so that all surfaces, classrooms, etc, can be cleaned on a regular basis throughout the day where needed.*
- *Putting hand sanitiser, tissues, anti bac wipes and bins, in every classroom.*

However, the greatest challenge for all schools is that of minimising contact between individuals and maintaining social distancing. Some changes are straightforward. For example, we will:

- *Rearrange the furniture in classrooms in line with current guidance*



- *restructure how our school is organised and managed in order to ensure pupils and staff are kept as safe as possible and that the spread of potential infection is minimised.*

Should guidance change, we will amend this plan appropriately.

Drop off and pick up times:

Drop off will be from 8:45am until 9:05am through designated doors as listed below

Pick up will be through the same doors. KS1 will finish at 3:10pm, KS2 will finish at 3:15pm.

Rec: Access through Gate to Reception outdoor area

Year 1: Access through Main Office Door & ramp

Year 2: Access through Year 2 external door

Year 3 & Year 4: Access through White door by Year 3

Year 5 & 6: Access through White door by Year 6

We respectfully ask that you do not loiter on the yard or around the classroom area and leave promptly at the end of the day.

Behaviour

At NLAS we pride ourselves on the high standards of behaviour and the care that our children show each other across all elements of school life. We will be focusing on our All Saints' Way and we ask that you support us in reinforcing expectations.

Before & After School Club: Oaky's Club

Oaky's club will be offering sessions for children from 7:45am – 8:45am and from 3:15pm until 5:45pm

In order to effectively plan for the children and allocate space and resources to the appropriate Key Stage Bubbles, we ask that you book in your required slots a week in advance. For any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs Edwards in the school office.

PE Days

On your child's designated PE day, they should come to school in school PE Kit. They will not be allowed to change in school. PE will recommence from Monday 7th September. Your child's class teacher will send a letter home in the first week of school, informing you of which days PE is required to be worn.

Currently we will not be sending children swimming as part of our school curriculum.

Snacks/Toast

Toast is available to order via parentpay. Please ensure you have ordered this before Friday 4th September. For any queries, please contact Mrs Edwards via her email: bursar@newlongton.lancs.sch.uk

If you choose to send in a snack, please only send in a healthy option. Please also remember we are a nut-free school.



Break times

We will be staggering break times so that your children do not mix in large numbers outside their bubbles. Classes will be given areas to stay within on the playgrounds.

Lunchtimes

We are operating 2 shifts over lunch break, with KS1 eating from 12pm until 12:30pm and KS2 eating from 12:30pm until 1 pm. Different staff will be allocated to each class and they will not mix with other classes and will eat with their class in their bubble.

Uniform

School uniform expectations remain the same. Please check the website and on the prospectus for up to date information.

Trips/Residential

Based on current government guidance, our Year 5 residential has been rescheduled to the end of the Spring Term. Currently, we will not be planning to undertake class trips or activities until such time as it is deemed safe to do so.

Pastoral Support and Wellbeing

After such an extensive amount of time out of school, successful pupil reintegration will depend on strong, supportive relationships and effective routines. We will be utilising our trained ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) staff members, our Learning Mentor, Forest School sessions and other support networks.

We know that some children and families are anxious about returning to school; we understand that some may be worried about missed work, and we know the challenges/sadness that some of our families have had to endure during the home school period. Please know that we are here to support you, however you or your child needs it.

For further information or questions, please contact the office.

Yours faithfully



Mr Maloney
Headteacher

