



LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Monday 13th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

In September, schools have been instructed to re-open for all pupils. I am sure you will agree that our children need a sense of normality and school is the one way of helping to bring this about. However, it brings with it, a set of challenges!

We have over 400 children at our school. That means we have over 400 children to get on and off the site every day in addition to the 50 staff who work here.

The gradual re-opening that started on 15th June 2020 this year has been a huge success. However, it has been such a big success because we have done everything very gradually. We have taken one step at a time, bringing in one year group, then another – a bubble at a time – before the return of the final year group.

Therefore, we are going to learn from this and do the same in September. It is crucial that we gain the confidence of parents and staff in order to have happy children. Whilst we have had around a quarter of children back into school this term, I am well aware that the majority of children have not set foot in the school since March and that means parents haven't either.

Bubbles

Our school is a large primary school and therefore it will be necessary for our children to be in year group bubbles. The classes will be kept separate in school itself and each class will be in their own separate classrooms for lessons (apart from Year 6 who will be set across classes). However, at playtime and lunchtime, the children will go out to play outside in their year groups.

Wrap-Around Care

We will not be offering any wrap-around care for the first three weeks of the new term. We feel this is just not manageable in the early days of getting used to a new way of working. We will review this by 18th September and if we feel we can offer this service, it will begin again on Monday 28th September. I realise this will no doubt bring about some issues for working parents. I am sorry. However, we have to get this right in school and for the start of term - there is just no alternative. If everything goes smoothly, then there is no reason why we will not start this from Monday 28th September. But we need time to assess the whole situation.

Lunch Times

For the first half term, lunches will be served in classrooms for Years 2-6. The tables will be cleared and washed prior to the children eating and lunch will be eaten at their table. I am sure the children will quite enjoy this novelty and we may actually find it a lot calmer and quieter! Music will be played while the children eat and chatter.

Reception and Year 1 children will have their lunch in the Infant Hall – they don't have enough tables in their classrooms to eat there. So, they will go into the Infant Hall, at separate times, and eat together in there.

In order to allow all year groups time to play outside at different times, it is necessary to shorten the lunchtime by 15 minutes which also means the overall length of the school day will be 15 minutes shorter.

Staggered Drop Off and Finishing Times

We are fortunate with our school site as we have many different entrances which we are going to utilise in September. Please find below the start and finish times of all year groups and the entrances they will be using. Please also note, that if you have children in different year groups, you can drop off at the same time if necessary but we ask that you keep to the time as close as possible to both drop offs e.g. if your children have 8.30 – 8.45 and another had 8.45 - 9, then you drop your first child off as close to 8.45 as possible and your second one as soon after 8.45 as possible.

Year Group	Class	Start Time	Entrance	End of Day	Exit
Nursery	Nursery	9.30	Nursery Field Gate	15.30	Nursery Field Gate
Reception	Mr Osmond	8.45 – 9.00	Main Entrance and Reception Doors	15.00	Main Entrance and Reception Doors
	Miss Martin	9.00 – 9.15		15.15	
Year 1	Mr McLoughlin	8.45 – 9.00	Infant Car Park	15.20	Infant Car Park
	Mrs Burke			15.10	
Year 2	Mrs Sant	8.30 – 8.45	Field Gate	15.00	Field Gate
	Mrs Startup				
Year 3	Mr Stephenson	8.45 – 9.00	Field Gate	15.15	Field Gate
	Mrs Grayson				
Year 4	Mr Stoker	8.30 – 8.45	Infant Car Park	15.00	Infant Car Park
	Miss Jackson	8.30 – 8.45	MUGA Junior Car Park	15.00	MUGA Junior Car Park
Year 5	Mrs Coyle	8.30 – 8.45	Hall Door	15.00	Hall Door
	Mr Keeton				
Year 6	Mrs Tate/ Mr Knighton	8.45 – 9.00	MUGA Junior Car Park	15.15	MUGA Junior Car Park
	Mr Taylor				

We realise that there is a lot of information to take in and I am sure you may have questions about this. Your child's new teacher will talk this through with the children in their Zoom calls this week and also talk about their new classroom.

I have every confidence that this system will work, providing that the times are adhered to by parents and that the one-way systems are followed. I will be in touch at the end of the summer break just to remind you all of our new system. Enjoy the summer!

Best Wishes,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher

