Lane End Primary School

Beeston Road. Leeds. LS11 6AA

"Learn and Believe, Aspire and Achieve"

July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are safe and well. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all once again for your understanding and support this academic year as we have all continued to struggle on together through the COVID pandemic and the implications it has had for school and families.

Following the Prime Minister's announcement that the country will be moving to step 4 of the roadmap out of lockdown, schools have also been given guidance – both from the Government and Leeds City Council - as to what we should do from July 19th onwards.

The Leeds Health and Safety Team have told schools that: *"Having discussed this with a range of primary and secondary Heads as well as with Public Health and Children's Services colleagues, the local authority is of the opinion that you should continue to follow your existing risk assessment and control measures until the end of term."*

This means we will continue to keep the following measures and systems at Lane End until we break up next Friday 23rd July:

- a controlled and one-way system of entering and exiting the school gates
- a staggering of start and finish times
- children both learning and playing in year group or class bubbles
- close contacts with positive cases will be asked to self-isolate
- adults wearing masks to enter, and whilst in the building, and when on the school site when there are a number of people gathered in one area

September Opening

School re-opens for all children Year 1 – Year 6 on Tuesday 7th September. Nursery and new Reception children – families will have been contacted separately about your starting dates and times.

We are preparing for a September return, and the guidance at the moment is indicating that much of school life can go back to more normal systems. This may, of course, change as we get closer to returning to school in September, but was are planning for the following:

The school day for ALL year groups, from Reception through to Year 6, will start at: 8:50.

- Gates will be opened at 8:40am and closed again at 9:00am. Anyone arriving after this time will need to be taken to the office, and registered as a late arrival
- The school day for ALL year groups, from Reception through to Year 6, will end at 3:15.
- Gates will be opened at 3:10pm and closed again at 3:30pm.
- For children in Year 5 and 6 – you will continue to drop off and collect your children in the areas at the front of school, near the school car park, and school staff will support the children to enter and leave the school site from here.
- Children will be able to store bikes and scooters through the day in the school bike sheds.

What will stay the same?

We will be keeping some of the systems we have used this year as we feel they have worked well in school, worked better for families, and also contribute to making the school environment safer. This will include:

- Enhanced hygiene and ventilation. The children will continue to have opportunities throughout the day to wash or sanitise their hands, and windows will be open to allow a flow of fresh air.
- Children will bring their own water bottles each day, and take them home again at the end of the day - for washing and refilling.
- Children in Year 2 upwards will continue to have their lunches in classrooms, sat together with their classmates.
- Playtimes will continue to be staggered, to minimize the number of children in our playground spaces at any one time.
- Enhanced cleaning of resources and classroom spaces each day.
- Parents will be encouraged to text, email or call school with messages when they can – to minimise numbers of people/visitors in the small main office entranceway.
- Letters, including newsletters, will be sent home to parents via email and put on the school website
- The road outside the school will continue to have the barriers across from 8:30am – 9:10am, and again at 3:00 – 3:30pm. This part of the road is part of Leeds City Council 'School Streets' scheme and vehicles are not allowed down the road at these times without a permit anyway (see sign on lamppost as you turn into the road by school). The barriers help to remind road users of this, and keep our waiting families and children safe too.
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- Children in Year 1 upwards will come to school in full PE kit on PE days

  Monday – Year 6a and Year 6b classes
  Tuesday – Year 2a and Year 2b classes
  Wednesday – Year 5a and Year 5b classes
  Thursday – Year 3a class and Year 4a class. *Class 4b Cherry class will be going swimming on a Thursday. A separate letter and information will follow for those children*
  Friday – Year 1a, Year 1b and Year 3b classes

Sad goodbyes

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a sad, but very proud goodbye to our special Year 6 children, that will be leaving Lane End at the end of next week. Miss Nelson, Mrs Rajchel, Mrs Shaw and the Year 6 staff team have been working hard to make sure that children have got a fun packed final week of activities, even though we are still working under health and safety restrictions.

These wonderful children are the very first Year 6 children that Lane End will say goodbye to – and we know they are all going to achieve incredible things as they move onto secondary schools, to continue their learning journeys.

We will always keep you in our hearts – and of course, you will go down in Lane End Primary School history, and for 23 of the 60 children leaving who started with us in Reception Class (before this school was even built!) – you will always be the first ever Lane Enders!

I would like to finish by thanking you all again for your support and many kind words over the past year. It has been a privilege to see the thoughtfulness and resilience of our whole community and how everyone has come together and supported one another in a time of difficulty. It is my pleasure to be the Headteacher of Lane End School and I am incredibly lucky to have such a dedicated staff, supportive parents, and most importantly wonderful pupils.

Take care and stay safe

Asa Britton
Headteacher