



LARKS HILL

J & I SCHOOL

Larks Hill J & I School
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3rd September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and have had the opportunity to engage with plenty of different fun activities and trips, whilst also finding some time to rest and recharge the batteries.

As you may imagine, the staff have been working hard ahead of the start of a new academic year and we are all extremely excited about welcoming the Larks Hill community (Years 1-6) back to school next week on Wednesday 8th September and then the new Reception class the following week from Monday 13th September. Please could I request that all Reception parents refer to the information provided by the school and Mrs Taylor during July, with regards to the timings and logistics of this week. Mrs Taylor has also arranged a Teams meeting Wednesday 8th September at 10am. A link for this will be issued next week.

As mentioned in my end of term letter, the school day will revert to starting at 8:45am and end at 3:15pm, as was the case prior to the Covid pandemic. Children should enter the school via the main school gate and make their way to their external classroom doors (following the external signage) where teachers will welcome them into school on a daily basis. At the end of the school day, the children will be released to their parents and carers from the same classroom door, unless an alternative arrangement has been previously agreed with the school.

Please may I take this opportunity to stress how important it is for your children to be both attending school on a daily basis and are also punctual, so as to allow for a smooth and efficient start to the day.

In line with the latest guidance that can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

- “Bubbles” will no longer be in place and we will revert to mixing of class groups where appropriate, such as break times, after school clubs and during curriculum activities.
- We will be resuming many of our ‘traditional’ school events and activities, such as assemblies, and look forward to being able to welcome parents/carers back into school for many of these.
- Our usual lunchtime arrangements will resume where pupils will eat with their classmates in the dinner hall.
- Pupils will no longer be required to self-isolate if they have been in contact with somebody who has tested positive for COVID 19. Contact tracing will be taken over by NHS Test and Trace, so we will no longer undertake this task in response to a positive case in school.
- If your child displays symptoms, we will request that they self-isolate until the results of a PCR test are known.
- Access to the school office, is now available for face to face queries, however, we would also still welcome communication via telephone (01977 722845) and email. (admin@larkshill.patrust.org.uk)

Elements that are unchanged:

- Our vigilance towards good hand-hygiene and good ventilation in all learning spaces will continue to further mitigate the spread of COVID 19.
- If your child tests positive for COVID 19, they will still need to isolate for the recommended period (NHS will advise).
- Adults or children may still choose to wear a face mask if they wish in school.
- A positive LFD result will also continue to lead to self-isolation whilst an individual is awaiting a confirmatory PCR test.

It is worth remembering that The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have made it clear that the overwhelming majority of children and young people still have no symptoms or will only suffer a very mild form of the illness. I would like to reassure you that we will continue to treat COVID 19 as serious and as such, our rigorous approach to our on-going hygiene measures will continue.

Uniform - we will continue to set the highest of expectations in terms of how the children present at school in their school uniforms/footwear and PE kit. Your continued support of this very important aspect of school life would be very much appreciated.

Those children who have been pre-booked into Breakfast Club, via MCAS (My Child At School) will be able to access this from 8am each day. (Reception children from Monday 13th September). All places must be pre-booked and paid for in advance.

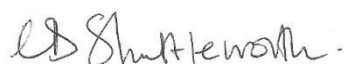
The class teachers will be writing to parents and carers during the first week of term, to provide them with a curriculum newsletter, which will also include reminders of the key points/logistics that were mentioned during the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions held remotely via Teams, during the final week of the 2021 summer term.

As ever, we are keen to ensure strong lines of communication. To this end, should you have any questions regarding your child's education, please could parents and carers make contact with the school via the school office in the first instance - admin@larkshill.patrust.org.uk and staff will strive to respond to you within a 24 hour period, wherever it is possible to do so.

Termly Dates - it is the intention during the first two weeks of the Autumn Term, to provide parents and carers with as many dates/timings of school events, which will be planned into the termly calendar. Additional dates may also be communicated after the release of this document, due to other opportunities that may arise throughout the term and our intention will be to provide as much notice as we are able to.

Please continue to enjoy the last few days of the summer break and we will look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Yours faithfully,



Ian Shuttleworth
Headteacher