

3rd September 2020



Dear Parent / Carer,

As we continue to look forward to welcoming Years 1 to 6 back to school on Tuesday 8th September and the new Early Years children starting in small staggered groups from Wednesday 9th September. I wanted to write to you to confirm the details for school reopening. This letter is an update to the one sent out at the end of term and is to be read in conjunction with [Guide for parents and carers- Preparing for a full return to school in September 2020 Version2 Sept2020](#)

Here are some answers to questions many of you will have:

Who will be allowed to attend once school reopens?

The DfE are clear that the attendance of ALL children in September is mandatory. They are reintroducing penalty notices / fines for non-attendance. We will continue our attendance procedures as before and monitor absences closely.

You can also help our school community by not sending your child to school if they, or any members of your household, are showing any symptoms of Covid-19.

When will school be open?

From September 8th, school will be open five full days per week as it was before closure in March. We will be welcoming children in **Years 1 to 6 from Tuesday 8th September**. However, the DfE have requested that schools introduce staggered start and end times to the school day in order to minimise the number of people on the site at one time. We are mindful that we want to remain safe whilst also minimising the disruption for parents, many of whom are returning to work. We will therefore trial an extended start and finish with a one way system travelling around the school grounds. [Please see Site Plan for parents – September](#)

How will classes be organised?

Next year, the children will start in their new teams. Children will work in the classroom for their team throughout the day. In order to minimise virus transmission, children will be in class bubbles. They will be taught by their class teacher with the support of an Assistant teacher whenever appropriate. Mr Clark, Miss Reynolds and Mrs McHugh will continue to deliver the PE, Wellbeing and French across the classes in KS1 and 2. Like these members of staff, some TAs will work between class bubbles; this is allowable within the DfE guidelines so that the curriculum can be fully delivered and supported. Staff who work with more than one class/bubble will maintain social distancing where possible and ensure they adhere to guidelines regarding hand and respiratory hygiene. Initially music will be taught remotely by Mrs McCartney with the children remaining in their classroom.



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What will my child's school day look like?

From September, children will be taught lessons from all of the curriculum areas for their year group to ensure delivery of a broad, balanced curriculum. Early on in the term, children will be assessed to determine where, if any, the gaps in learning are. We have written a reconnection curriculum for our school in maths, reading, writing and wellbeing. Additionally, we have mapped the gaps in all other subjects to determine where children may revisit lost learning in the other areas of the curriculum. We will focus on key skills in the core subjects; in particular phonics, reading and spelling in literacy and number, place value and the four operations in maths for the Autumn term.

Reading Books

From October, children will once again be able to bring school reading books between school and home; there will be more stringent rules about when and how books are changed however, as we have to 'quarantine' reading books for 48 hours before they can be re-loaned. For the first couple of weeks of term, we will be quarantining books that have been returned to school, having been loaned out before closure. Currently, the vast majority of our school reading books are at home with children so please bear with us for the first couple of weeks of term in September, whilst we gather together enough books to safely re-loan. We will aim to start re - loaning books from October however this will be under constant review.

Handwashing

Regular handwashing will continue to feature in the timetable. Children will be supervised washing hands on entry into school, before and after lunch and breaks, after using the toilet as well as at other regular times. Hand sanitizer will only be used on occasions when children do not have access to a sink; this will be supervised to prevent any injury eg sanitizer in eyes. Please do not send in their own sanitizer. There will be posters displaying appropriate handwashing instructions throughout school as well as shared with parents here for you to look at with your child [*Please see Wash your hands children's poster*](#)

Outside play

Children will still get time to play outside; break and lunch times will be staggered so that classes go out at different times and stay in zones. Different classes will not mix but children within a class will now be allowed to play together; there is no expectation that children within the same class will socially distance from one another. [*The outside adventure equipment will be out of use for the foreseeable future as will the wooden benches.*](#) Please **DO NOT** allow your child to use them before or after school.

Lunchtime Key Stage 2 (Team Hazel, Team Beech, Team Maple, Team Elder, Team Hawthorn)

Hot dinners will be available to book along with packed lunches. You are, as normal, able to provide your child with a packed lunch. If your child is entitled FSM they will be provided with a hot meal or a packed lunch which will be delivered to their classroom, where they will eat, to reduce the risk of transmission with lots of children using one space (the hall). They will need their own water bottle with them to minimise risk of transmission.

Lunchtime Key Stage 1 (Team Sycamore, Team Oak)

These children will ALL be provided with a hot meal or a packed lunch, as part of the Government's universal free school meals. This will be delivered to their classroom, where they will eat, to reduce the risk of transmission with lots of children using one space (the hall). They will need their own water bottle with them to minimise risk of transmission. You are, as normal, able to provide your child with a packed lunch

Lunchtime EYFS & Year 1 (Team Willow, Team Fir)

These children will ALL be provided with a hot meal or a packed lunch, as part of the Government's universal free school meals. They will eat in the hall. They will need their own water bottle with them to minimise risk of transmission. You are, as normal, able to provide your child with a packed lunch

What should my child bring to school and wear?

Although children will be allowed to bring some limited items to school, we are still keen to reduce the amount of things transferred from home to school. Classes will need to keep cloakrooms and lockers free of clutter and so children may need to keep their belongings with them. Please help us by minimising the things your child brings to school.

Children can bring:

- A drinks bottle containing water not juice
- A packed lunch box if your child is having a packed lunch from home
- A coat for cold / wet weather OR sunhat for sunny weather
- Their book bag containing only their reading book and reading diary.
- If Key stage 2 children don't have a book bag then a small rucksack

Children to avoid bringing:

- Additional bags or large bags i.e rucksack, backpack.
- Toys
- Any playtime equipment eg balls or skipping ropes
- Hand sanitizer or soaps; school will provide both of these items which have been approved by H&S for school use and COSHH tested
- Suncream; parents must apply this before school please

- PE kit (They will attend school in their PE kit on the day they are due to have PE)
- Pencil cases; children will be supplied with their own packs of equipment.



From September, we expect all children to wear full school uniform; this includes footwear which should be plain black / dark shoes which are appropriate for outside activities. The DfE guidance states that uniform does not need to be cleaned any more than usual, nor does it need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

When will my child do PE?

To minimise the transmission of the virus all children from Year One up will be asked to come into school wearing their PE kit on the day they are due to have PE. Children will receive two sessions of PE on this day. We will do as much outdoor PE as possible (even if it is cold but dry) so please wear appropriate kit which will keep your child warm. Outdoor trainers are essential. Children in EY will do PE in their uniform and barefeet initially in the hall as we are unable to get too close to them to help them get changed!

Monday	Team Maple, Team Elder, Team Hawthorn
Tuesday	Team Hazel, Team Beech,
Wednesday	Team Sycamore, Team Oak
	Team Willow, Team Fir, (Kit not needed in September for EYFS children only, Year 1 children to come in their kit)

What if my child develops COVID symptoms while at school?

If your child develops COVID symptoms they will be moved to a separate room where a member of staff will put on PPE equipment and check their temperature. If this is high you will be contacted for them to be immediately collected. Because of this it is vital we have upto date emergency contact information.

What is school doing to make sure my child is as safe as possible?

We have undertaken a very detailed Risk Assessment to ensure that school is as safe as it can be for children to return to school. Measures in place include:

Hand hygiene

We will continue to timetable hand washing REGULARLY in classrooms. Children will be taught / reminded about how to wash their hands effectively using anti-bac soap.

Respiratory hygiene

As per DfE guidance, we will adopt the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach in school. Each class has been provided with a separate bin (with lid) for the disposal of tissues. The bins are lined with double bags and are disposed of as per government guidelines after a period of quarantine.

[*Please see Catch it Bin It Kill It poster*](#) Additionally, we will ensure that classes are well ventilated by keeping windows open; please make sure your child has a school jumper or cardigan!

Cleaning

Members of staff will clean regularly touched surfaces such as desks throughout the day, using disinfectant. The toilets will be cleaned twice each day.

Use of PPE

All staff and visitors will have the option of wearing a face shield if they wish. Full PPE will only be worn by staff who have to have close contact with a child displaying covid symptoms (gloves, apron, mask) or needing intimate care.

Social Distancing

The DfE guidance states: "Minimising contacts and mixing between people reduces transmission of coronavirus. Schools must do everything possible to minimise contact and mixing whilst delivering a broad and balanced curriculum." The guidance goes on to state that for younger children (primary schools) the emphasis will be on separating class and phase bubbles rather than on distancing. The guidance also makes clear that members of staff can move between bubbles. So at Lakeside we will implement the following:

Children interacting with other children

Children will not be expected to socially distance from other children who are in the same class; however we will try and support them in keeping their distance from others whenever they can and not touch one another unnecessarily. However, with relatively small classrooms with up to 30 children in many classes, with two classes with more, children will be in fairly close proximity to one another.

Children will remain in their class bubble or phase bubble and we will minimise mixing with children from other classes,

There will be significantly reduced movement of children around school which will reduce their contact with children from other classes.

The guidance states that before / after clubs can run to support parents with childcare- for clubs it is permitted for children to mix in wider groups (i.e with children not in their own class) as long as the new club group is relatively small and that consistent children attend it. We have continually liaised with CMOOSC throughout to ensure they can provide wrap around care.

Staff interacting with children

Staff will try as much as possible to distance from children – Public Health England understand that in primary schools, particularly with younger children, this may not be possible. However, wherever possible, staff will aim to keep 2m away from children when they can but approach from behind if they need to be in closer proximity (eg opening pack up items / helping with work).

In KS2, children will sit at forward facing desks next to one another (2 children at each desk). In EY and KS1, children will spend some time sat in forward facing rows on the carpet. This means that they will be in close proximity to at least one other child.

Interaction with other adults

Parents are not to enter school / come to school office- please email or phone the office with any queries (admin.lak@ebor.academy / 01904 555200)

We will be minimising volunteers in school for the first half term

Staff will be outside their external doors each morning to speak to any parents as children are dropped off but conversations must be socially distanced. I will also be on duty at the start/end of the school day, as usual.

Parents are requested to leave the school site as quickly as possible and school will be promoting the message **"Don't be a contact"** Please see **Sorry can't stop**

Use of Equipment

- Children cannot have play equipment at breaks and they are not allowed to bring their own equipment in; however we have found that removing equipment has allowed children to be much more creative with the games they play and we have even seen a few 'oldies' returning to the playground
- Children will sit at the same desk every day.
- Each child will be given their own pack of stationery and will not share this equipment. (This will not apply to EYFS)
- For other classroom based resources essential for learning- eg books / games- these will be used and shared WITHIN A CLASS but will be cleaned regularly.
- For resources that need to be shared between a number of classes eg science equipment, some maths equipment, art /PE/DT equipment- these will be cleaned between use by different classes OR left unused for 48 hours (or 72 hours for plastics) before use by another class.

Other Practical Things Parents Need to Know

Parents should not enter school or come into the school office under any circumstances; please email or phone school with any queries or concerns. Appointments will be made for any face to face meetings.

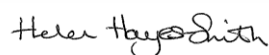
We had intended to invite parents to school for a meeting within the third week back to meet the teacher and talk through the expectations for the class. However this is NOT possible in the current climate and we are going to conduct these meetings through Zoom. These meeting are only for parents not children and should last around half an hour.

The meetings will be held	Team Hawthorn	Monday 21 st September	5:30pm
	Team Elder	Wednesday 23 rd September	5:30pm
	Team Maple	Tuesday 22 nd September	5:30pm
	Team Beech	Thursday 24 th September	5:30pm
	Team Hazel	Tuesday 29 th September	5:30pm
	Team Oak	Monday 21 st September	5:30pm
	Team Sycamore	Monday 28 th September	5:30pm
	Team Fir	Wednesday 23 rd September	5:30pm
	Team Willow	Wednesday 30 th September	5:30pm

I hope that this letter answers any questions you may have about returning to school in next week. Please contact the school office by phone or email if you have any further questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support of the school. It is very much appreciated in these difficult and unprecedented times.

With very best wishes,



Helen Hayes-Smith

Head of School