

Dear All

I hope you and your families remain safe and well.

As always, the welfare of all our pupils is at the heart of all that we do, and we are working hard to ensure the safety of our school community. We follow government guidance and procedures as well as consult with the Local Authority to ensure that we have a highly effective plan, which enables pupils and staff to safely return to their learning in school.

Since the school and pre-school's closure in March, we have supported children of key workers and children who are in vulnerable groups. On average, 5 pupils and 2 members of staff have been in school each day. We have followed guidance from the Government at every point, keeping children safe through protective closed groups of children, keeping them safe in 'bubbles'; as acknowledged by the Department of Education, effective social distancing children of early years and primary ages is not possible. As we plan to reopen the school and pre-school, the number of pupils and staff will dramatically rise and consequently school will need to operate in an entirely different way.

The main purpose of this letter is to further explain some of the measures that will be in place, ready for June 1st reopening for initially Pre-School, Reception, Years 1 and 6 plus Key Worker and Vulnerable children. It is important to have a transparent view of what school and pre-school life will be like, over the next few weeks.

We are following the extensive guidance provided by the Government, with the following key principles:

- avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
- frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices
- regular cleaning of settings
- minimising contact and mixing

The above approach is underpinned by the latest understanding of the science, which indicates that we need to take a phased approach to limit the risk of increasing the rate of transmission (often referred to as R) above 1.

The Government have factored in:

- severity of disease in children – there is high scientific confidence that children of all ages have less severe symptoms than adults if they contract coronavirus
- the age of children – there is moderately high scientific confidence that younger children are less likely to become unwell if infected with coronavirus
- numbers of children going back – which needs to be limited initially then increased gradually as the science permits
- systems to reduce the size of the groups coming into contact with each other – such as smaller class sizes spread out across the setting

Social Distancing

We will endeavour to promote good social distancing measures when in and around school. However, it is not possible for children to strictly follow social distancing rules.

"We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. In deciding to bring more children back to early years and schools, we are taking this into account."

DfE Guidance



Many of the social distancing measures in place are not only to help protect pupils, but also staff and parents as they use the site safely. Scientific evidence suggests that transmission of the virus is far more prevalent in adults, as a result, many of the measures in place in the car park are to protect parents and staff, as well as pupils.

Small Groups

We will be keeping the children in safe bubbles, pre-school will remain in the pre-school room and other children will be taught in their own year groups initially. They will remain in the same groups all day with the same staff members.

Staggered Drop Off and Collection Times

We ask that pre-school and school pupils are dropped off at school at the marked 'Drop Off Zone' by one parent or family member only. Once your child has entered the building, we ask that all adults leave the site promptly and follow social distancing rules as per government advice.

There will be staggered start and end times to the day:

- **Pre-school:** 9:00am prompt
- Reception: 8:45am – 9:00am
- Year 1: 9:00am – 9:15am
- Year 6: 9:15am -9:30am
- Key Worker Children: 9:15am -9:30am

(All siblings to start school at the staggered time of the youngest sibling.)

This is then reversed for the end of the school day:

- **Pre-school:** 3:00pm prompt
- Reception: 3:00pm – 3:15pm
- Year 1: 3:15pm - 3:30pm
- Year 6: 3:30pm prompt
- Key Worker Children: 3:30pm prompt

(All siblings to leave school at the staggered time of the youngest sibling.)



Once again, we ask that you arrive within the allocated time and leave the site promptly, observing Government social distancing guidelines. Should you wish to talk to a member of staff, we ask that you arrange a phone call with them via an email to the school office: nikki.snook@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk

The children will be taught in separate groups (or bubbles). They will stay in these groups all day. Each group will enter the building from a different entrance than usual:

- **Pre-school:** Main office entrance
- Reception: Double gates leading to field
- Year 1: Via the front of the building door leading to Mrs Spour's classroom
- Year 6: Double gates leading to field
- Key worker children: Double gates leading to field

On arrival, children will be asked and supported to use hand sanitizer before entering the building. Throughout the day we will be encouraging everyone to wash their hands regularly in accordance with guidelines.





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Leadenham Church of England Primary School

Little Acorns Pre-School

Main Road, Leadenham, Lincoln LN5 0QB

www.leadenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

School: enquiries@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk / 01400 272702

Little Acorns / XCITE: littleacorns@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk / 01400 273278

Headteacher: Mr M Nicholson

School Office

We would prefer that all normal business involving the school office be conducted by phoning school on 01400 272702 or directly to the pre-school on 01400 273278 or by emailing littleacorns@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk or [nicci.snook@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:nikki.snook@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk). We do recognise that there will be times that you will need to use the school office, please be aware that there are only two visitors allowed in the office at once.

Daily Sessions

Pre-school daily sessions will also look different as per the Government guidance. We are encouraged to do as much outdoor learning as possible, and as I'm sure you are aware, this is our school's ethos.

Under the new guidelines set by the Government, learning in school WILL be different:

- Your child will not be able to mix/socialise with children in a different class/group or other adults at all during the day.
- Pre-school children will stay in their small groups/bubble of approximately 4 per session.
- Lunch will be eaten in the classrooms.
- The usual end of year activities will not take place.
- Routines will be different; there will be new rules and expectations.
- Children will not be able to access, and use, all resources.
- We will not be able to accept individual requests.

Meals

There will be no hot meals on site. All children are to bring a packed lunch into school/pre-school or parents can pay for and order a packed lunch from the Farm Kitchen website as usual.

Children will be asked to bring the bare essentials into school/pre-school, a packed lunch and a coat. No other items are required in school/pre-school at this time.

What to do if someone shows symptoms?

In the unlikely event that a child or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students who are attending a pre-school/school, will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus.

If they test positive, the rest of their class/group within the school/pre-school setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class/group do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

If anyone shows symptoms they should not be in school/pre-school.

If someone develops symptoms whilst in school/pre-school they will be isolated within a separate room and their parent/carer will be called to come and collect their child.

They should then self-isolate at home and get tested.

If the test is positive they should inform the school/pre-school. The staff members and the group they work within will also be sent home to be tested.

How to book a test: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>





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Please ensure that your emergency contact details are up to date, and any amendments are advised to nicci.snook@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk or littleacorns@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk

Clinically Vulnerable or Extremely Clinically Vulnerable

If your child falls into one of the two categories of clinically vulnerable or extremely clinically vulnerable, then the government guidance should be followed below and then informed to school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

Hygiene and Cleaning

As per government guidelines, we will follow stringent hygiene routines, including handwashing routines and additional cleaning throughout the day. On arrival, children will be asked and supported to use hand sanitizer before entering the building. Throughout the day we will be encouraging everyone to wash their hands regularly and in accordance with guidelines. We will also be promoting the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach, encouraging children not to touch their faces and mouths, this will be taught to all pupils. The school will also be deep cleaned before it reopens. Resources for use at home to promote hygiene can be found here <https://www.e-bug.eu/>

As always, we want to work with families and the whole school community to provide an engaging and safe place to learn. It is my hope that providing you with all the information from the Government and temporary changes to school/pre-school life, that this will allow you to begin to prepare your child for their return to school/pre-school.

I appreciate that this is not an easy decision and I am more than happy to discuss your child's return to school by email request to nicci.snook@leadenham.lincs.sch.uk

We will continue to offer support and work together as a school community.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Nicholson
Headteacher

Travelling to School

The Government would like us to make you aware of the Safer Travel Guidance, recommendations on transport to and from education or childcare settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

Check list for safer travel

Plan your journey:

- can I walk or cycle to my destination?
- have I checked the latest travel advice from my transport operator?
- have I booked my travel ticket online, bought a pass or checked if contactless payment is possible?
- have I planned my journey to minimise crowded areas and allow for delays?
- am I taking the most direct route to my destination?



What to take with you:

- a plan for my journey
- contactless payment card or pass
- phone (if needed for travel updates, tickets, contactless payments)
- tickets
- hand sanitiser
- essential medicines
- tissues
- a face covering, if required

Information regarding reopening schools, June 1st 2020:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

Advice and help on what to teach during the Coronavirus outbreak:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

COVID-19

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If you have any of the symptoms above you should self-isolate at home.

For the latest information and advice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>



NHS

Do not leave home if you or someone you live with has either:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough

[Check the NHS website if you have symptoms](#)



STAY ALERT  **CONTROL THE VIRUS**  **SAVE LIVES**

