



Lionwood Infant and Nursery School Newsletter

Wednesday 20th May 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know the Government has announced that schools have been asked to re-open for certain year groups from 1st June 2020 at the earliest - if 5 tests are met. Since this announcement several organisations including the British Medical Association and Trade Unions have expressed concern over the safety of children and staff in school with increased number of pupils returning.

We are been reading the guidance and proposals as they come out, and looking at how to get ready for the wider reopening of Lionwood Infant School to some Reception and Year 1 in addition to the children of Keyworkers at some point after 1st June 2020.

We have decided that we will not be able to open on 1st June but we will let you know as soon as we have a plan for opening more year groups.

The provision for children of Keyworkers from both schools will remain at Lionwood Junior School for now but some changes will be made to the provision for the children in line with the new guidance. Parents of these children will be informed of these by the end of this week.

As I have said before, we are keen to see all children back together in school but only if we can minimize the risk to an acceptable level.

I regret that at this stage we cannot give a date for re-opening, but rest assured, we are doing our best to open as quickly as it is safe to do so.

Home Learning will continue throughout the closure and beyond.

I hope that there will be agreement between the Government, BMA and Unions very soon as this will help us to move forward.

When the building is safe to open to some children, I will be in touch with more information.

I understand that it may be frustrating for parents and upsetting for children and staff for the school to remain closed to most pupils. Any parent who is having difficulties is encouraged to contact me on by emailing officelians@istnorfolk.co.uk to discuss how the school can support your child.

Many thanks for the messages of support and suggestions for improvement that parents have taken the time to send in - they are much appreciated.

I would like to thank all the staff including our caretaker and cleaners and our cook from Norse who are working so hard to make this extremely challenging time as bearable as possible for the Lionwood Community. Keep safe and healthy

Hannah Kingsley and the Lionwood Infant Team

Lionwood Junior School site closed for Half Term (25th—30th May 2020)

In order that the school can be deep cleaned, the School site will be closed to all children. Keyworkers who cannot care for children at home need to contact us by the Thursday 21st May 2020 at 3pm to discuss your childcare needs. NO childcare is available at all on Bank Holiday Monday (25th May) Email: officelians@istnorfolk.co.uk

Class Dojo and Home Learning

Thank you to all who have engaged with the Home Learning through Class Dojo.

The teachers love seeing all your messages, work, photos and videos. The teachers have also enjoyed the chance to speak with children on the phone. Teachers will be offering this service again after half term.

Please contact on officelians@istnorfolk.co.uk if you have an queries about homework.

Returning to school

We know how hard it must be for children and families to manage their anxieties about what school will look like for them when children return either this academic year or next. We regret so much that we cannot give concrete details at this stage.

Nursery, Reception and Year 1

We want to reassure parents that we put the children's wellbeing at the top of our list of priorities and will make sure that transition into their next class in September is as settled as possible. Once safe to do so, will begin to organise transition arrangements for current Nursery, Reception and Year 1 pupils. These might look slightly different to our usual arrangements but we will make sure that we keep you informed throughout the process and organise some special and inventive ways for your child to connect with their new class.

Although we know the children will have missed traditional schooling—please be assured that the teachers will take time to assess where they are and what needs to be done to address any gaps while avoiding too much pressure on children.

Year 2

We know that parents and children will be particularly anxious about their transfer to Junior School in September. We will continue to discuss transition arrangements closely with our feeder schools and ease this transition for our Year 2 pupils as best as we can. Whatever happens we will ensure that all Year 2's are invited back at some point when it is safe to have a Leavers event and to say goodbye properly to friends and staff.

NEW CLEANER WANTED

Our cleaner, Lorraine Blanchflower, is leaving after working at Lionwood for many years. We would like to thank Lorraine for her work at the school and wish her all the best.

We are therefore looking for a dedicated, professional and friendly new member to join our cleaning team! Can you please inform any family or friends who have cleaning experience and may be interested. The link to the advert is below and is being advertised on Educator Solutions.

<https://www.educationjobfinder.org.uk/vfjobs/cleaner-44/?fromSearchPage=true>