



Lionwood Infant and Nursery School Newsletter

Wednesday 3rd June 2020



Dear Parents/Carers and Children

I wanted to write to you all today as some of the schools across the country have taken back some children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1. We made the decision based on the scientific advice that opening the school on the same day as the lockdown was significantly relaxed, was not safe enough for your children and families, and our staff.

One bit of good news is that staff and the children currently attending Lionwood Junior School will be able to return to Lionwood Infant and Nursery School from June 8th. For the parents of Key Worker and Vulnerable children currently attending, there will be information being emailed to you towards the end of this week. The school has put into place all the risk reduction requirements set by the government. The time in delaying the school reopening allowed us to return to the Lionwood Infant and Nursery School building with new safety procedures in place and has given us time to train the staff.

I know that for some of our children and parents, not knowing what the next few weeks are going to look like is extremely frustrating and upsetting. Please get in touch if you want to discuss your child's education or wellbeing. The staff have been working throughout the closure with families to support them in different ways. Please do let us know as soon as possible if you need a keyworker place for your child and have not already used your space.

Our plans for the next two weeks...

- Send out details of the risk reduction procedures for the school—together with an online questionnaire for Year 1 Parents about the possibility of their children returning from the earliest from the 15th June 2020 to find out how many children we might expect to take up a place. This will allow us to see whether we can accommodate these children without compromising safety.
- Train staff in the new risk reduction procedures and review the risk assessment
- Work on transition plans for September for all year groups.

What will coming back to school look like?

I have sent with this newsletter a summary of the risk assessment as it stands at the moment, so that you can see the sort of measures that would need to be in place when year groups start to return. Here are some of the things that will look different when they return: Children are divided into groups of about 12 children. These are designed to reduce the need for social distancing which young children find hard, they have their own desk and pencil case, they have their temperature checked on entry and they spend all day either in class or outside with the same group (they cannot mix with children from other groups or move freely around the school). Only packed lunches are available, which they eat in class. They have the same group of teachers assigned to the group. They may not be taught by their teacher or be with their friends. (please see Measures in Place for COVID 19 document, sent with this newsletter)

Year 2 Leavers Celebration

We know that the Year 2's need to have an event with their friends, teachers and parents that allow them to say goodbye to everyone properly. We can't tell you when this will be—as we would not want to do this until everyone felt able to come back on site. If we can do this before the end of term—rest assured, we will do it. We would like to organise a Leavers' Celebration and if this needs to be after September then we will make sure that all children and families are invited back.

New Reception and Nursery 2020

Parents of new reception and nursery children will be receiving their packs of information over the next two weeks in the post. As we are currently unable to host a New Parents Meeting, we will be trying new ways of connecting with our new children and parents such as videos, messages from teachers and phone calls to parents.

Thank you for your continued support—stay safe and well

Hannah Kingsley and the Lionwood Team