

School Update 1 - Tuesday 25th August - Starting School

Good Afternoon

As you are aware we are currently working very hard to ensure school is Covid Secure for re-opening next week.

I would like to explain in more detail how we intend to reopen school to ensure this is a smooth process for all children. Therefore we are staggering the opening over Wednesday 2nd September and Thursday 3rd September. We have organised this by whether children have brothers and sisters in school or not. This is to assist teachers in sharing information about changes to the school day with all children and also to assist those children who may find the start to school overwhelming.

Wednesday 2nd September = those children WITHOUT brothers and sisters
Thursday 3rd September = ALL children (those without siblings and those with siblings)

In order to aid parents and children with social distancing on their way into school we are also staggering the drop off and pick up times. We have organised this by surnames in order to assist families in dropping off at the same time.

Surnames starting with A - K = 8.40am - 8.55am
Surnames starting with L - Z = 8.55am - 9.10am

We require everyone to keep to these times initially to ensure we can safely assist 490 children to enter and leave school safely. If you have difficulty with these times you must speak to the class teacher (outside school, via email or telephone) and we will see if we can assist you but it may not be possible.

In order to ensure all parents and children socially distance around school we will have a one way system in place on the yard and **ONLY Lammack Road entrance open.** (The Whinney Lane entrance is considered to narrow to enable so many parents to enter school that way.)

The one way system is organised by entering the yard through the vehicle entrance (usually open on Parents Evening) and leave through the pedestrian entrance. Only children can enter the building so parents will be expected to leave children outside the indicated entrances below.

Class 1GR/1T/2D - Drop off and collect = Enter the building through the glass conservatory outside the two Year one classrooms. Parents must then walk through the Astro turf/MUGA and leave via the far side of the playground.

Class 2C/2T = Drop off and collect through the metal gate entrance near to the Year 2 classrooms. Parents must then continue up to the Astro turf/MUGA and leave via the far side of the playground.

Class 3T/3M = Drop off through the main entrance, children follow the internal one way system straight to their classrooms. Parents to collect from the main entrance (we will call for children once we see parents arrive - apologies that this may take a little longer than normal but we will do our best to work on this over time).

Class 4E = Drop off and collect through the door at the far side of the Year 4 Classrooms (the children will know this as the door at the bottom of the ramp). Parents must then leave via the far side of the playground. Parents to leave via the far side of the playground.

Class 4H/4W = Drop off and collect from the classroom fire doors. Parents to leave via the far side of the playground.

Class 5A = Drop off and collect from the classroom fire door. Parents to leave via the far side of the playground.

Class 5R - Drop off and collect from the main entrance of school. For collection we will call for children once we see parents arrive). Parents to leave via the far side of the playground.

Class 6B, 6G and 6P - Drop off and collect from the classroom fire doors. Parents to leave via the far side of the playground.

Any Year5 or 6 children coming to school or leaving school by themselves must socially distance from children not in their bubble/household - parents are responsible for ensuring their child understand the importance of this (especially during these times of stricter lockdown). **Please ensure your child's teacher has a written note stating that you wish your child to walk to school or home from school by themselves.**

As part of the tighter restrictions this ward of Blackburn finds itself in at the current time, I must request that only single households come to school together and also nobody congregates to chat on the school playground. It saddens me to enforce this but we must all work together to ensure all of our community is kept safe.

If children wear a face mask/covering for the journey to school they must (CURRENTLY) remove it before entering school. This will need to be stored safely in a small bag if it is reusable or placed in a bin immediately once children enter school. Children must then immediately wash their hands upon arrival to school.

Currently some classes are unable to use cloakrooms due to the enclosed nature of these areas of school. Please ensure children only bring the bare essentials to school (reading book and diary in a school reading bag/wallet/folder, a packed lunch box - preferably plastic to ensure it can be wiped clean daily, and a water bottle). All children will require a waterproof, warm coat as we will be endeavouring to spend playtimes outside every day, regardless of the weather. All the guidance tells us that fresh air is vital in reducing transmission.

I apologise for the amount of information within this email but I would like to ensure you are confident in returning your children to our school knowing that we are planning for 'almost' every eventuality.

Regards

Mrs Duckworth