



THE LIMES
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Returning to School in March
Covid-19 Precautions and Procedures
A Guide for Parents



Updated 1st March 2021

Year Group 'Bubbles'

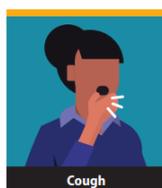
As before the Christmas break, each year group will now form a bubble which will enable us to run our outside education. The children will not mix or share equipment with other groups (unless it undergoes rigorous cleaning and quarantining) and equipment within each year group will be used on a rotation basis, to allow for increased cleaning.

We will be encouraging children to keep their distance from each other and staff as much as possible, however young children do find this tricky and we cannot guarantee that we can maintain this at all times. However we are still aiming to provide a fun, exciting curriculum, even with additional measures.

Symptoms of Coronavirus

- Any child or member of staff who becomes unwell, will be isolated and then sent home as quickly as possible.
- Any child will have to stay at home for at least 10 days if they develop symptoms of coronavirus and ***we ask that they are tested, so that we can protect everyone else in our school community.***
Any family in this situation will need to contact the school with the results as soon as possible as we may need to take further action.
Should the result be negative, the child will be allowed to return to school once they are well enough.
- Any member of staff to stay at home for at least 10 days if they develop symptoms of coronavirus, we will ask that they are tested so that we can protect everyone else in our school community.
- Anyone who tests positive and subsequently develops symptoms must begin the 10-day self-isolation from the day the symptoms start.

In line with the current NHS advice, if your child develops coronavirus symptoms and tests positive, you should keep your child at home for a period of at least ten days. Symptoms include a high temperature or a new, continuous cough, loss of taste and smell and in children upset stomach and rashes can also be a symptom. Where symptoms (other than coughing or change in taste/smell, as these can last for weeks) continue after ten days, or begin to worsen, you should call 111. If someone in your child's household tests positive, your child must self-isolate for 14 days from the day the other person's symptoms started.



If you think your child may have been exposed to or has coronavirus, or if your child receives a positive test result for coronavirus, you must contact the school on 01502 449200. Your child must NOT attend until you have spoken to someone in school.

Staff helping children who have become unwell during the school day will need to wear PPE – this will include an apron, mask, gloves and a face visor.

You can access a test by going online on the testing and tracing for coronavirus website or via NHS 119 if you do not have access to the internet. You may need to keep refreshing the website until a test is available.



A case of Covid-19

In the event of a confirmed case of Covid-19 in school we will ask everyone who has been in close contact with that person to self isolate for 10 days. This is likely to include the rest of that child's class.

If your child is asked to self-isolate due to a confirmed case in their class, their siblings do not need to unless the isolating child develops symptoms. If they do eventually develop symptoms, they will need to be tested. Should this be positive, they will need to isolate from 10 days from the date of the test. If it is negative, they will need to complete the 10 days from the start of the isolation period.

Should there be more than two cases at any one time it may be necessary to close a larger number of classes.

Whenever children are asked to self-isolate, learning materials will be provided through Tapestry, which may include links to other websites such as The Oak National Academy, Read Write Inc or BBC bitesize. More information can be found on our website under curriculum and home learning.

Following any confirmed case of Covid-19 in school there will, of course, be a deeper clean of the affected areas.

Attendance

There is a high correlation between good attendance and high achievement. Now the circumstances have changed and with the precautions in place, we expect all children to return to school. Parents will not be penalised for self-isolation due to coronavirus symptoms (as agreed with the school) but other absence will be followed up by the school, in line with our Attendance and Punctuality policy. If you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend school, please see our flow chart at the end of this document.

If parents have concerns about their children returning to school, we ask that you give us a ring on 01502 449200 to arrange a discussion with Mrs Cracknell.

Arrival at school

The beginning and end of the school day are the busiest times for children and adults congregating together in one place and we need to maintain social distancing.

The school car park **will not be open for parents**, except those by prior arrangement (e.g. due to disabilities – if you feel you would need to park in school for such a reason, please contact the office). We would encourage all parents to walk or cycle wherever possible. If you have to drive, we ask that you park in a lawful and sensible way. We hope that the drop off car park will soon be available – we will let parents know when this is the case.

Each **class** will be given a **10 minute slot in which to arrive at school, and a 10 minute slot to collect**. This is to keep as few people on site as possible at all times. Whilst we appreciate that many of our parents work and therefore timings may be tricky, this is an important rule to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus and must be a priority. By giving each class a slot it enables learning to start quickly and efficiently, rather than children arriving at different times over the course of half an hour. **Please DO NOT arrive more than 5 minutes ahead of your child's slot.**



	Drop Off Slot:	Do not arrive before:	Pick Up Slot:	Do not arrive before:
Nursery (Morning)	8.30-8.40	8.25am	11.25-11.35	11.20am
Nursery (Afternoon)	12.20-12.40	12.15pm	3.15-3.25	3.10pm
Reception	8.55-9.05am	8.50am	3.10-3.20pm	3.05pm
Year 1	8.45-8.55am	8.40am	3.00-3.10pm	2.55pm
Year2	8.35-8.45am	8.30am	2.50-3.00pm	2.45pm

We will continue to operate a one-way system around the site, coming in by the pedestrian gate nearest the school, going round to classrooms in the normal direction, but then walking round the outside of the school to the playground, exiting by the pedestrian gate next to the vehicle gate. This is shown in the diagram below, but there is clear signage and staff will be on hand to point you in the right direction!



Nursery children can come in through the nursery gate. Again, there will be staff on hand to support with this.

Around the outside of the building there will be smiley faces 😊 spaced 2m apart. Please ensure you stick to these.



Please do NOT socialise with other families on school grounds but continue to social distance.

If you are late for your slot, you will have to wait until 9.05am to drop off, or 3.20 to pick up. Being late to drop off causes disruption to your child's learning and that of their class. Being late to pick up causes issues with the vastly increased amount of cleaning of equipment and preparation for the next day's learning.

Children will need to say goodbye to their adult outside as no parent/carer will be allowed into the building. We appreciate this may be tricky for the new and youngest children and we will work with families to make this transition as quick but as positive as possible. Where you cannot keep 2m away from the class door on drop off/pick up, we ask you to wear a face covering – staff will wear a visor. Where a child is struggling to come into the building on their own, we ask that the adult bringing them to school wears a face covering whilst they are within the building.

Children and families should arrive and leave school with just one adult, to reduce numbers.

Should you need someone else to pick up, please ensure that the school is informed in plenty of time and that the person picking up has some form of ID (preferably with a photo) if they are not known to the school. There is no need to bring them along in advance to learn the way – staff are on hand to direct them.



Communicating with school

We ask that no adult comes into the school building. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, please either ring or email the office to arrange an appointment. We will aim to get back to you as soon as possible. Staff will phone or email any information after school that families need to know – they will not mix with families to maintain social distancing.

We have strict limits on numbers in any one area – we can only have two people or one family in the main office entrance at any one time. Therefore, if you have a general query, please ring or email. Do not enter the front office

Cleaning and Hygiene

As per the advice from the government, the following actions for infection control remain in place:

- Displaying coronavirus infection control measures information posters around the school
- Encouraging good hygiene by promoting the importance of handwashing for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap in the following circumstances:
 - Before leaving home
 - On arrival at school
 - After using the toilet
 - After breaks and sporting activities
 - Before food preparation
 - Before eating any food, including snacks
 - Before leaving school
 - At regular intervals throughout the day
- We have alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60 percent alcohol throughout the school and every classroom has warm running water and soap available.
- All rubbish and waste in classrooms will go in a bin with a lid
- Ensuring frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected more regularly than usual
- We have provided staff training on PPE, social distancing, Covid-19 awareness and ensuring high hygiene standards.



Uniform

We ask that children come in school uniform as much as possible. However, we also ask that clothes are washed daily. Therefore, we will have a slightly more relaxed approach towards uniform. We will also be outside as much as possible and will do 'PE' outside, therefore we ask that the clothes and shoes your child are in are suitable for outside, physical activities.

For Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, PE will take place outside each week. We ask that on your PE Day (which staff will communicate with parents) that your child comes to school in sports clothing. As the weather gets colder, please ensure this consists of jogging bottoms and a jumper, as well as trainers.



Lunch, water bottles and what to bring (and not to bring!)



We will provide each child with a delicious and nutritious school lunch, along with the usual fruit snack. Children will eat their lunch with the rest of their year group. For Nursery and Reception, this will be in their separate areas. For Years 1 and 2 this will be in the hall, but will involve children sitting in a given seating plan so year groups do not mix.

We ask that children do NOT bring in anything other than the following items:

- Book bag and reading book/record
- A spare change of clothes in case of an accident, in a plastic bag, in the book bag.
- Water bottle (this should be washed daily)
- A coat or sun-hat, depending on the weather.



Home packed lunches will not be permitted at this time (except in Nursery) without prior arrangement with school. Please do not bring in any books or toys from home. If it looks like it will be sunny, please ensure your child has sun cream on before the school day starts – we will not be able to put this on for your child.

Face Coverings

Due to the rise in cases and in order to keep everyone safe, **staff will now wear a face covering if:**

- They are working at a table with a small group of children and are therefore under 2m away from each other for longer than 10 minutes
- The children are not able to be 2m away when sitting on the carpet for longer than 10 minutes
- At the door to greet children if parents are unable to remain 2m away (as is often the case with the youngest children)
- In all areas of the school outside of their classroom.

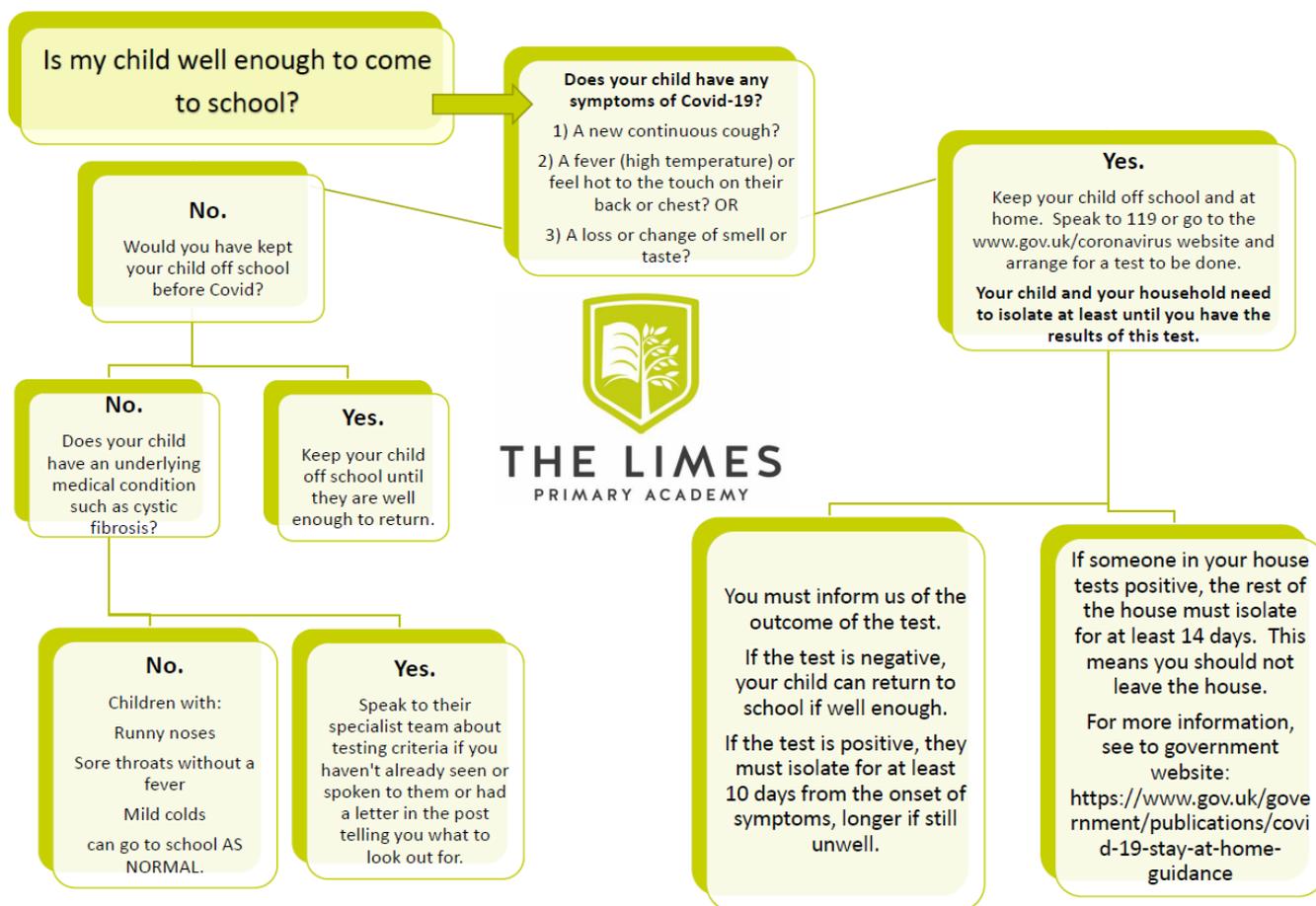
We also ask that parents or carers wear a face covering when on site.

We understand that some adults will be exempt due to medical conditions and will respect this if explained to staff.

REAch2's stance is that children should not wear face coverings.

Changes in some school routines and whole school events

- We will not be holding any assemblies for the whole school for the foreseeable future.
- PE lessons will take place outside.
- We will ask children to play games that don't involve contact, e.g. not football/tag – we will teach them some new games!
- Unfortunately, under current Government information, rules and guidance, we are currently unable to hold events where we invite parents into school.
- There will be no school trips taking place in the foreseeable future.



Previously, we have facilitated the administering of paracetamol or ibuprofen for children who have been ‘under the weather’ but otherwise ok to come into school (signed in via the office). Due to Covid-19 we are not able to do this. **If your child is not well enough to be in school without paracetamol or ibuprofen (unless prescribed by the doctor), we will ask you to keep your child at home.**

Summary – Returning to School

	<p>Classes/year groups, rather than bubbles, and a new way of learning. No mixing with year groups.</p>
	<p>Don't come to school if you are displaying Corona Virus symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New, persistent cough • Fever • Change to or loss of smell or taste
	<p>Drop off and pick up during your child's class slot. One adult only.</p>
	<p>Follow the 1 way system.</p>
	<p>Stay 2m apart – follow the smiley faces.</p>
	<p>Wear a face covering.</p>
	<p>Frequent hand washing</p>
	<p>Additional cleaning</p>
	<p>Wear fresh clothes every day, as close to uniform as possible.</p>
	<p>Bring a water bottle, washed daily. Bring your book bag, coat and hat/sun-cream if sunny.</p>
	<p>Lunch is provided – check the website for menu!</p>
	<p>If you need to speak to someone at school, ring or email:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 01502 449200 • office@thelimesacademy.org