



Long Lawford
Primary School

Love, Learn, Persevere and Succeed

Wednesday 23rd September 2020

COVID-19 Update

Dear Families,

You may have heard that the Prime Minister Boris Johnson last night announced further restrictions to the Nation due to a rise in COVID-19 cases across the country. These new restrictions include:

- Rule of 6 (indoors and outdoors)
- Work from home where possible
- Local lockdowns where needed
- Early closure of pubs, bars and restaurants
- Closure of non-COVID safe establishments

These new restrictions may also be in place for the next 6 months. You may also be aware that local cases in Rugby (and Warwickshire) are increasing at a fast rate.

It has become more critical than ever to **adhere to government guidance** and to help each other to be COVID safe. I am pleased to report that there have been **no positive cases of COVID-19 identified at Long Lawford Primary School**, but I am not naive enough to believe that this will always be the case. Despite our (and your) efforts to remain COVID safe, we continue to rely on you, our supportive community, to play your part in helping us to remain COVID safe. It is the intention of the Government to support schools with **remaining open as usual**, and that no school closures (other than partial closures related to positive cases of COVID-19 within schools) are planned. Mr Johnson was clear that he does not plan to return to a National lockdown situation, but may impose local lockdowns as needed (such as those we have seen recently in Leicester). For more advice about national restrictions, please click [here](#).

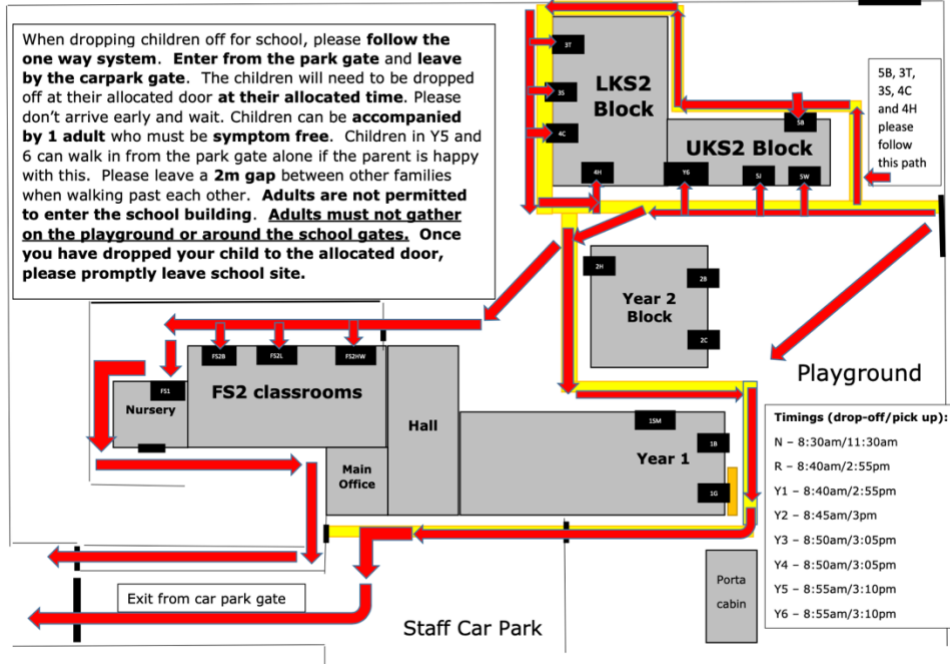
Thank you to those of you who have provided us with valued feedback. Although I have not yet responded to all emails or messages (we get a lot of correspondence not just from parents but other companies, schools and DfE each day!), we hope you can see that your feedback has been taken on board and **thank you all once again for your ongoing support of the school.** I have already had many questions about Christmas celebrations and what will be happening. At present, we are not able to invite parents into school due to current government restrictions, but we will do something – watch this space!

I would like to reassure you all that we remain in regular communication with our local consortium of schools, Warwickshire County Council and the Department of Public Health to ensure our school is as **COVID safe** as possible. **We are taking all necessary steps to keep our school community safe**, including adhering strictly to the advice and guidance regarding symptoms, testing and isolation periods.

We have recently released some information from the DfE and Public Health Agency which makes it really clear for all regarding **what to do if your child is unwell** with suspected symptoms/general illness. Please visit our school website or access our school app to see this information (blue poster). We have also posted this on our social media platforms. Please remember that **our staff are willing and happy to help where they can**, but they are not medical professionals. It is up to parents and carers to decide if children have a symptom of COVID-19, but we are happy to support with what to do next regarding testing and isolation periods.

There have been many changes over the last few weeks with trying to get timings of the school day right. But the help we need from all of you is to **wear face coverings where you can**; to **arrive to school for your child's set time**; to **leave promptly via the one-way system**; **avoid gathering on paths or by school gates** and **maintain your social distance**. It is also vital that when children have been collected, they remain with the adult that has collected. For the moment, **children cannot run in the field or playground, or use any of the play equipment we have on school site**. Please help us by ensuring **your child stays with you** so that staff can concentrate on manning gates and managing the number of adults on school site.

September Entry and Exit Plan – v4



You will also see our **staff wearing visors on gate duties**, and some may also choose to wear these visors throughout the day to help mitigate any risk to themselves and your child. Those that regularly cross bubbles (such as the Senior Leadership Team and Inclusion Team) will also increase the use of a visor alongside the already established handwashing routines.

Further information will be released by the school this week regarding **requests from parents for their child to wear a face mask during the day.** Whilst children wearing masks isn't enforced by the school, we are trying to accommodate these requests as much as possible. However, there are guidelines from the government on this matter. Please look out for further information regarding mask wearing in school later on this week.



There is a **"hands, face, space"** campaign nationally at present, and yesterday I attended a very reassuring WCC briefing regarding all of the efforts our County Council are making to support us all with being COVID safe. The school continues to liaise with the County Council, and has been greatly reassured by their support.



There is still great uncertainty about furlough, which affects some of our families. Support is available through the [Citizens Advice Bureau](#) and the [Family Information Service](#), who are experts in this field.

If you have any further feedback, concerns, worries (or compliments!), please do get in touch via email on admin2405@welearn365.com and we will respond as soon as possible. We endeavour to update all of our communication platforms regularly, so please check out the [school website](#), school app, [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for any announcements, updates and more! **Thank you all once again for your valued and continued support of our school, and for helping us all to remain COVID safe.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Claire Stringer
Headteacher