



Little Hill Primary School

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Part of the OWLS Academy Trust

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carer,

LETTER NO 19 - Information and Arrangements for January 2021

I hope that you all had a good Christmas break and managed to spend some time with loved ones and have been able to enjoy the festive period the best you can during these times of uncertainty.

I am writing to you as I think it is important to openly share the current situation with you. There is a lot of talk currently around schools reopening after the Christmas break. **Little Hill Primary School, as it stands, will open as normal tomorrow.** I am fully aware that there is another announcement at 8:00pm tonight.

We have held our INSET teacher day today so that we could carry out our preparations and training ready for the start of term. Please be reassured that we have reviewed the latest guidance and updated our risk assessments accordingly to ensure the school is as safe, as possible and remaining as covid19 conscious as ever.

Primary schools that are closed have been identified within the DfE's (Department for Education) "Contingency Framework" which included some London boroughs and some surrounding counties but not Leicestershire. This is due to the fact that Leicestershire, currently, does not have the number of Covid19 cases that other parts of the country are facing. Therefore, the position of primary schools in Leicestershire has not changed. Leicestershire figures are currently lower than they were in November, Oadby and Wigston figures are higher than most other parts of Leicestershire but below the National average at 391. London schools are currently above 1,000.

I will however, continue to monitor the situation in school. Everyone in our school community is a priority and we will all work and follow the Government and Public Health England's advice.

I foresee that there are four possible scenarios during this half term:

1. The national and Leicestershire instructions do not change, and all children are back in class full time. • In this instance, children will continue to be taught by school or supply staff.
2. The national and Leicestershire instructions do not change, but we have a staff shortage which could lead to a situation where some classes might be in school learning in person and some classes learning remotely at home. • In this instance, work / activities will be set daily via the Class Dojo platform, by the class teacher for the children to complete at home.
3. A whole class needs to isolate (including the teacher) – this could also include a lockdown situation where the school has to close: • Also, in this instance, work / activities will be set daily via the Class Dojo platform, by the class teacher for the children to complete at home.
4. A national lockdown, where the school is only open for vulnerable children and children of 2 keyworkers / single parent key worker (Your child will have had a place open to them back in June 2020): • In this instance, work / activities will be set daily via the Class Dojo platform, by the class teacher for the children to complete at home for the vast majority of children.



EYFS parents and parents whose circumstances have changed would need to contact the school office to request a place.

I would like to reassure you that we take any suspected and confirmed case of Covid-19 very seriously. As soon as any individual develops symptoms, parents are contacted and they are immediately sent home to self-isolate until the symptoms can be confirmed.

Symptoms

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), there are others, are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

Do

- strictly follow the tier 4 Government advice
- wear a face mask at every pick up and drop off time (if you are exempt wear your lanyard)
- make space - keep 2m distance
- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze

We would also ask parents not to linger on the school grounds at the start or end of the day.

Staggered times are:



Little Hill Primary School
Giving Children a Flying Start

Staggered Times - Please arrive at your time slot.

Year 1 & Year 4 = 8:40 - 2:55
Year 2 = 8:45 - 3:15
EYFS and Year 5 = 8:50 - 3:05
Year 3 & Year 6 = 9:00 - 3:15

Pupils wait with parents, social distanced until the gate opens.
Siblings can arrive together.

I hope this answers some of your queries regarding the measures we are taking to ensure that your child's education continues at this time. Please be assured, we will do everything we can to safeguard the health of your child and every member of the school community, and to communicate in as clearly and timely a manner as possible.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together in these unprecedented times. As ever, any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school.

Kind regards

HR Splitt

Helen Cartledge-Splitt
Acting Headteacher