



Believe, Learn, Grow

**Lydiard Millicent CE Primary School**

**The Butts**

**Lydiard Millicent**

**Swindon**

**Wiltshire**

**SN5 3LR**

**Principal: Mrs Carly Luce**

Dear Lydiard Families,

We are very pleased to share our plans for the return to school for all pupils on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. As we move from this period of partial opening to welcoming all children back to the school site, I want to acknowledge the hard work of all involved in sustaining our school family.

Our school value last term was perseverance and I saw this shine through. I have such appreciation and admiration for our staff team who have been resilient and resourceful throughout. Life in a school is always eventful and we often joke about things that aren't on the job description but there have been so many examples of all staff continuing to go above and beyond. A huge thank you goes to Mrs dos Santos and the LM Team.

Of course, the perseverance hasn't just come from within the school building. We have been so grateful for your ongoing support, whether that has been helping your child adapt to the differences on-site or by engaging with the remote learning at home and balancing that with your own work and challenges of everyday life in lockdown. Your constructive feedback and support has helped us to shape the provision for our children. Thank you. I hope the news that schools are opening to all pupils soon has lightened the load a little.

Of course, if we ever want to see perseverance in action, we look to your children and our school would like to say a huge thank you to them. They have worked so hard and adapted brilliantly to whatever their learning journey looked like during lockdown. Along with this letter, you will have received a letter that your child's class teacher has written and I would be grateful if this could be read or shown to them.

In the rest of this letter, Mrs dos Santos has outlined the information you will need ahead of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Much of the information below will be familiar to you but it is important to remember that, as delighted as we are to be opening to all children, we each have a very important role to play in keeping our school community as safe as possible. I would be grateful if you could read the following information carefully and if you do have any remaining questions, please contact the School Office and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back together on site (I hope the children are as excited as the staff!) and we will do all we can to ensure that the full reopening of our school provides a calm and positive experience for all children.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs C Luce  
Principal

## Protective Measures

A number of protective measures are required during this time and we will continue to:

- implement regular handwashing routines, including on entry to school;
- ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach;
- clean frequently touched surfaces and empty bins throughout the day;
- where possible, allocate resources such as stationery and work-books to each child;
- have systems for cleaning or quarantining equipment that needs to be shared between classes;
- assign zones to each class for breaks and lunches;
- stagger drop off and pick up times to minimise the amount of contact between families;
- ask parents/carers to wear face masks/coverings when accessing the school site;
- use one-way systems through pinch-points such as gates used as entrances and exits;
- ask staff to wear face coverings to greet families at drop-off and pick-up and in any situation on site where social distancing cannot be maintained.

## Drop-off and Collection Arrangements:

- As before lockdown, parents/carers will be allocated a drop off and collection time. Only one parent/carer can accompany a child onto the site and if you have another child with you who is not attending school, they must stay with you at all times.
- For everyone's safety, the drop off and collection arrangements must be as quick as possible.
- Parents/carers should only arrive at school ready for the allocated drop off or collection time and should move quickly from the school grounds once children have been dropped off or collected.
- Waiting or congregating at the front of the school (in the bus bay, or by the gates) is not permitted. Children and parents should have clear access routes to and from the site at all times.

Your assigned drop off and collection times are as follows:

Year Group	Drop Off	Pick Up
Group 1 – Y5 & 6 plus younger siblings	8.40am	2.45pm
Group 2 – Y3 & Y4 plus younger siblings	8.50am	2.55pm
Group 3 – EYFS, Y1 & Y2	9.00am	3.05pm

The groupings are the same as in September opening but please note the timing changes for Group 1 and 2.

The new variant is far more transmissible, so in order to strictly reduce the number of people accessing the site at any one time, these family timings must be adhered to. If your child/children are only in KS1 and/or EYFS classes, please **do not** drop off until your allocated time slot of 9am.

Only **one** adult may accompany your child/children to school and the adult must wear a face mask unless medically exempt. Pick up and drop off must only be with an adult who is part of the family support or childcare bubble. When you have dropped your child/ren off at the marker in front of the classroom, all parents must then leave via the car park gate (following the one way system signage). Due to the positioning of classrooms and the one way system in place, the youngest child is to be dropped off and picked up first.

Teachers will be wearing a face mask and will **not** be available for conversations at these times. Any messages should be sent via phone or email to the School Office. The School Office will not be open for parents to access for anything other than dropping off emergency medication.

A back to school video made in September 2020 is available on the school website on the [‘Reopening’ page](#) and can be viewed as a reminder to see the above information in practice.

We appreciate your support with these measures that will allow us to welcome back all children whilst keeping our school as safe as possible.

### **Lunches:**

School lunches are available onsite for all children. Children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2, together with any child eligible for Free School Meals can receive a free meal. Children in Years 3-6 can purchase a meal. The current school menu can be found on the [website](#) and children book their meal on the day. Children who are not eligible for a free meal or who have not purchased a meal will need to bring a packed lunch. As we aim to be a nut free school due to children with severe allergies, the lunch must not contain any nut products. Children will eat their lunch in classrooms at the present time and move to eating outside when the weather is more agreeable.

### **Uniform & Equipment:**

Children should wear normal school uniform and can continue to wear trainers. Children should bring their book bag, lunch box (if not having school dinners), water bottle and reading books as usual. We will once again ask that nothing additional is brought in from home unless specifically requested by school to limit sharing between the home and school environments.

### **Attendance:**

We are expecting all children to return and the usual rules on school attendance apply. Any absences should be reported to the School Office. As always, children should not attend school if they are unwell and if they, or anyone in their household, experience any symptoms of Covid-19, they must follow the [guidance available on our website](#).

### **Communication:**

The School Office will not be open for anything other than handing over emergency medication. All messages should be emailed or phoned through to the School Office and not given to teaching staff at the classroom door.

We would also ask that you let us know of any changes that have happened in your family during this time that may mean your child or your family requires some additional support.

### **Curriculum:**

Our Term 4 curriculum will be adapted to match the needs of the children and will complement the approach set out in the Recovery Plan. Initially, we will focus on rebuilding relationships, reconnecting, routines and expectations alongside learning behaviours and values. A broad curriculum will be promoted whilst providing enough of a framework to support prioritising key skills and knowledge for each year group. Topic webs can be found on the website class pages.

As there may be periods of time where children are unable to attend school due to COVID-19, the remote learning plan previously published and found on the [Remote Learning Page](#) of the website will be used. Remote Learning will be uploaded to the Purple Mash platform by 9am on a Monday.

After school extra-curricular clubs will not start again before Term 5. Peripatetic music sessions will commence the week beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March.