LINDEN ROAD ACADEMY

# PRINCIPAL: Mr P Greaves TEL: 0161 3200002

EMAIL: admin@lindenroadacademy.co.uk



### 29th June 2020

### Reopening school for Year 2

Dear parent/carer,

I am writing to explain how we plan to reopen for your child’s year group. Your child will begin full time school on:

**Monday 6th July**  at **8.45am until 3.00pm**

School gates will open for this drop off time 5 minutes before. It is important that these times are followed to allow the staggered start to the day to be followed.

**Safety Measures**

All parents of Year 2 children will need to start their drop off at the student entrance on the corner of Linden Road and St. Lawrence Road (Gate D). We ask that only one parent from each family attend school to drop off or pick up and that parents and children observe social distancing throughout their time in and around the school grounds. To help parents to observe social distancing, red marks can be followed throughout the school grounds. There is a specific, one – way route to follow. Parents will not be allowed to take their children up to the classroom door as they would normally do. The map of the route is available on our website and staff will be on hand to help with directions. Also, please note that teachers or teaching assistants will not be available to discuss any issues face to face, but this can be done by phoning the school office, emailing [admin@lindenroadacademy.co.uk](mailto:admin@lindenroadacademy.co.uk) or [update@lindenroadacademy.co.uk](mailto:update@lindenroadacademy.co.uk)

**If anyone in your household has any of the symptoms of coronavirus then we ask that you do not attend school until negative test results for covid 19 or 14 days of self-isolation have been completed.**

Throughout the day children will be asked to wash their hands and use hand sanitiser. Masks will not be worn by children and only a very small number of staff will wear a mask and PPE on the occasions that we need to provide first aid.

**Preparing your child to return to school**

It is our aim to reopen a school where learning, enjoyment and wellbeing is key to what we do. However, doing this under the current circumstances and the guidance that we have to follow, means that there will be differences to the school that the children remember. It is important to discuss some of these with your child to prepare them for coming back to school.

* Miss Slack will be working with your child throughout the week. If more children from Year 2 attend then this may have to change and your child may be taught by a different member of staff.
* Many of your child’s friends may not be attending. This may change as the half term goes on but it is something that your child should be made aware of. They can be reassured that they will be supported and helped to learn and play with whoever is in their class.
* Your child will be working in the Year 3 Classroom.
* Your child will be have their own table to sit at and they will have their own bag of resources with the main equipment that they will need to learn and do their work. There will be times that children will be asked and supported to observe social distancing such as when lining up, eating their lunch and at some other times during the day. Children will spend more time learning and playing outside more than usual. Your child will be allowed to play normally with their friends at play time and lunch time.
* Children will be expected to wear their usual Linden Road uniform and sensible shoes. As there is an expectation for all children to wear clean uniform every day, we can help by giving you spare uniform to support you in this.
* Unfortunately, there won’t be activities that involve having parents or carers in school until further notice.

**Goodbye Routine**

One of the challenges of your child returning to school will be that they have are out of routine. Please prepare your child to return to school by talking to them about what it will be like. Prepare them so that they know that it won’t be exactly as they remember. Reassure them that the things they do remember about school will be there again one day, but for now it has to be a bit different (see the table below to support this). Let your child know that it is ok to feel however they feel. It will be ok to miss you because you will be there to pick them up at the end of the school day. Talk about what it will be like walking into the playground. Children that walk in will get a special sticker. Your child may resist coming into school. This is normal and means that they are working towards coming into school but that they are going to try and hang on for a bit longer. Try not to show that you are anxious or annoyed with them. We will be there to help but keep persevering and reassuring your child that you will be there to pick them up at the end of the day.

**Lunches**

Your child is eligible for universal free school meals, as they were before the school closure. The free school meal offer will be a cold sandwich packed lunch only. Please find information and a small menu choice on our school website. If you wish your child to have a free school meal then you will be able to select your options by following the link at the bottom of this letter.

Your child may choose to bring their own packed lunch to school in the usual way.

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| **Some things that are going to be the same in school** | **Some things that are going to be different.** |
| There will be a familiar face from your child’s teaching team. | There may be other members of staff working in Year 2 that your child may not know at first. |
| Your child will be supported and allowed to learn across the Year 2 curriculum. We will also spend lots of time supporting your child’s wellbeing. | Some of your child’s friends might not be back in school for a few weeks and your child will be working in the Year 2 classroom. |
| Your child will still take home reading books. | The book may be changed a little less often than before. |
| Your child will have story time every day. | Parents won’t be able to come into school to read with their child for the foreseeable future. |
| Your child will wear their Linden Road Academy uniform. | We know that your child may have grown out of some of the uniform. We have lots of spares that we want you to have. Your child may have to wear other sensible shoes if their school shoes don’t fit and that is fine in these exceptional circumstances. |
| We will celebrate your child’s achievements and success and show them that learning and effort are still very important. | We won’t have a weekly assembly for parents and family to attend for the foreseeable future. |
| Your child will be able to play and have fun with their friends and share equipment at lunchtime. | Your child won’t be able to play with children from other year groups for the foreseeable future. |
| Sharing messages and success between home and school is still very important. | Parents won’t be able to discuss these with teachers or teaching assistants during drop off and pick up. Contacting the office or using the email addresses above will make sure that good communication can carry on between home and school. |
| Your child will still be active, taking part in PE lessons and spending time in Linden Wood and on the school fields. | Your child will not need to bring in a bag or their PE kit for the foreseeable future. |

There is a lot to discuss with your child and it is important to talk about your child’s concerns, let them know that it is fine to feel worried or nervous or anxious. Try not to say ‘don’t worry’. Instead say that you understand how they feel and reassure them that it is okay to feel like that. Then talk about how your child can cope with this, with the support of Miss Slack or Mrs Cooper or another staff member that they feel they can talk to.

Please contact me through the school office on 0161 320 0002 or [update@lindenroadacademy.co.uk](mailto:update@lindenroadacademy.co.uk) to discuss any thoughts or concerns that you have about your child restarting school on Monday 6th July

Please look through the maps on the school website to familiarise yourself with our changes to the usual drop off and pick up routines. If you have an additional child in FS1, FS2, Year 1 or Year 6, then your children should all start at which ever start time is earliest.

<https://lindenroadacademy.co.uk/parents/reopening-fs-y1-y6>

Once you’ve read through our plans, please complete this short form to let us know and to select a lunch option.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=fDIWpBZLrUSzz1EJUVI-wlLxe2s6hHxFue85YquUpDRUQjJJRzhWNjUxRlRQMjVaM1hNSjFMWDVGOS4u>

Thank you for your understanding. While we are determined to reopen Linden Road Academy as a school where everyone can come and enjoy and learn and be happy, these are necessary changes that we have to make to comply with guidance and keep everyone as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Greaves

Principal