



3rd September 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Re: Full reopening of Crown Lane Primary School to all pupils on Monday 7th September

I hope that you have had a peaceful summer and that your families have remained safe and well.

The decision has been made by central government that all primary schools can now reopen. The staff and I are delighted to inform you that your child can start back at Crown Lane from Monday 7th September. The government decision is based upon the following:

- ✓ The prevalence of coronavirus decreasing
- ✓ The new NHS test and trace system being in place
- ✓ More clarity about the measures that need to be in place to create safe environments in schools
- ✓ Time out of school being detrimental to children's development
- ✓ The low risk to children of becoming severely ill from coronavirus

I am confident that the school is very well prepared for your child's return to fulltime education. I am also mindful that a small few parents may remain nervous about sending their child to school, however [Attendance](#) will be *mandatory* from Monday 7th September for Crown Lane pupils. From that date our school attendance policy will apply and this means that we will be recording attendance and rigorously following up on any absences. If your children had been staying at home due to the shielding guidance, please remember that the government paused this guidance on 1st August since there was a continued decline in coronavirus transmission rates. This means that continuing to shield is no longer a valid reason for continued absence.

[School Uniform](#) helps your children to feel part of our school community, creates a sense of belonging and may help to encourage positive behavioural choices. We are expecting your child to attend in full school uniform from Monday 7th September. If you are experiencing problems acquiring the correct uniform, please let your class teacher know. Letters will be sent home from the week beginning Monday 14th September for those who continue to attend school wearing incorrect uniform. Children may be outside every day so need appropriate clothing such as raincoats or sunhats.

The wellbeing of each of your children is our priority. The Senior Leadership team and I have been working since before the summer holidays to develop very detailed Risk Assessments in order to reopen safely. These have been adapted as and when new advice was issued to us and our plans have been checked repeatedly. Some of the [safety measures](#) we have put in place are as follows:

- ✓ The leadership team have had virtual meetings with other Lambeth Headteachers, Cathy Twist, *Director of Education and Learning* and with others key professionals including Public Health and the School Nursing team who advise on areas such as Health and Safety
- ✓ This week we have had staff INSET training where we shared the school Risk Assessment with all staff and asked for feedback. Based on what they have said we have made changes so that everyone has had a part to play in making the school safe as it can be
- ✓ Staff and children are working in 'Bubbles'
- ✓ Early Years and Key Stage 1 children are working in bubbles that are class sized
- ✓ Key Stage 2 children are working in year group sized bubbles since they can understand social distancing more easily
- ✓ Bubbles will not interact with each other to support social distancing.

- ✓ Our classrooms are now arranged with all desks facing forward to help minimize the spread of water droplets in the event of a child sneezing or coughing near another's face
- ✓ Staggered arrival, break times, lunchtimes and collection times of children to limit the amount of contact that they could have with others outside of their bubble to help with social distancing
- ✓ Increased cleaning around the school, especially in 'high use' areas – these standards are monitored during the school day by the Premises Team
- ✓ Each Bubble will have its own supervised play area at break and lunchtimes
- ✓ Increased handwashing throughout the day and hand sanitizing on arrival and departure from the school gates
- ✓ Children may bring a book bag to school while unnecessary toys from home are not allowed at school unless they have a particular function that is recognised by the school such as 'stress ball'
- ✓ Packed Lunch boxes are allowed and will be kept at pupil's desks – coats will be hung on the backs of chairs
- ✓ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be worn by staff who administer First Aid and those who help younger children to use the toilet
- ✓ Assemblies will take place within each Bubble
- ✓ Water fountains will be turned off and children will be asked to bring their own labelled bottle for water that can be safely refilled in school and keep at their desk
- ✓ Parents and carers (with the exception of new starters in Nursery and Reception classes for a limited time) will not be allowed onto school site to minimise the potential for social contact
- ✓ We are asking parents and carers to only collect their own children and not children from other families to keep within the distancing guidance
- ✓ We are asking parents and carers to only have one person drop off and collect from school, ideally the same person wherever possible
- ✓ 2m markings will be in place inside and outside the school to support the safe arrival and departure of children
- ✓ Visitors will not be allowed into the school and the office will manage this process
- ✓ Meetings with parents/carers will be via telephone only

We realise that parents and carers with more than one child at the school may have a longer wait time at arrival and collection times due to class bubbles starting at different times. Regrettably the school cannot allow siblings to be dropped or collected at the same time if their bubbles do not start or finish at the same time. We appreciate your patience and this time.

A copy of the timings of each Bubbles 'Start and finish' times is available on our website along with a fully updated Risk Assessment and 'RAG checklist' is available on our website should you wish to review these. Our socially distanced Lunchtime timetable is outlined in the grid below.

Lunchtime Timetable from September 2020

Time	Dinner Hall	Arena	Playground	
11.30-11.55	N, R and Y6	Y4		
11.55-12.25	Y1 and Y4	Y6	R-Green	R-Emerald
12.25-12.55	Y2 and Y3	Y5	Y1-Blue	Y1- Sapphire

12.55-1.2	Y5	Y3	Y2-Royal	Y2- Turquoise
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Please note that the dining hall is arranged to ensure that social distancing is in place for all class or Year group 'Bubbles' to avoid unnecessary contact with others.

Crown Lane is very proud of the [pastoral support](#) that it provides its staff and families and we are acutely aware of how lockdown can impact on Mental Health. I hope that you have found our telephone calls over the last few months supportive and in particular the Parental Consultation calls this week. If you think that you or your child might need extra support when returning to school, such as if they feel anxious about coming back or they are experiencing bereavement please do not hesitate to let your child's class teacher know or make an appointment through the school office.

Our current plans to support your children's wellbeing during this time include:

- ✓ General pupil wellbeing activities delivered during class time and PSHE
- ✓ More specific support that may include some 1:1 sessions with a member of teaching/classroom staff or Learning Mentor support to help pupils who are vulnerable or who have difficulty re-engaging in school
- ✓ Support for children with Autism or other SEND will be delivered on a case by case basis, depending on needs, by the Inclusion Team.

While there will need to be some adaptations to reflect the teaching time that was lost during the lockdown, Crown Lane will continue to offer a broad, balanced and ambitious [curriculum](#) that celebrates [diversity](#) and [equal opportunities](#)

Unfortunately, [Breakfast Club](#) will not restart until after October half term, however [Afterschool Club](#) which is delivered by FitForSport, will begin in the week of 14th September. This club will follow all government guidelines in terms of health and Safety.

Parents are asked to contact FitForSport directly for further details about bookings.

For many of us, lockdown was a time for us to reflect on our own individual circumstances while events at home and abroad made us more aware of the fragility of human life. As staff and families, we are very lucky to have each other to lend us support when we need it most.

I would like to thank you for your patience with our staff over the past few months and for treating them with the dignity and respect that they deserve. I would like to reassure you that we will do everything that we can to help your child be successful.

I am looking forward to seeing you all next week.

Gavin Farrell
Headteacher

