

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**



Leighterton Primary School
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Headteacher: Ms M Hatfield

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Dear Parents

We are really pleased to be reopening Leighterton Primary School for all children from 8th March 2021 and are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back to their classrooms.

We will be doing everything that we can to ensure that we can keep everybody as safe as we can and will be following DfE guidance.

I am sure that the children will all be really excited about seeing their friends 'face to face' again and the teaching team are planning lots of opportunities for them to catch up with each other. They will also provide activities to identify any gaps the children have and will re-establish routines for learning in school, ensuring the children make good progress in phonics and reading, increasing their vocabulary, writing and mathematics. We will also work on our broad curriculum so that children are taught the full range of subjects.

Attendance

We will reopen for all children on March 8th and have been told that attendance will be mandatory. If there is a reason why your child will not be returning to school, please contact me. However, if your child is ill, please keep them at home and let us know in the normal way. If your child (or anyone that you live with) has symptoms of Covid, please book a test for that person and self-isolate as a household until a negative test result is received. Please let us know so that we can record it appropriately in the register.

When should I bring my child to school?

Just as we did before the lockdown, we will have a staggered drop off and collection time so that contact with others is minimised. Please bring as few people to the school as possible – consider leaving other children at home with another adult supervising them – this is to limit the number of people around our school at what will be busy times.

You MUST be on time rather than early or late. Only one adult may accompany each child for drop off and collection.

Children in Apsemore and Bowldown should be dropped off in the car park at 8.30 am and collected at 2.45 pm. Children in Haymead and Ridge should be dropped off at 8.45 am and collected at 3.00 pm. If you have children who are in both bubbles, then you should drop them all off at 8.30 am and collect them at 2.45 pm. Children will be required to walk straight to their 'bubble's' room and wash their hands. If you have messages for the key adults who work with

your child, please call the school office on 01666 890273 and give them the message or email at: admin@leighterton.gloucs.sch.uk.

Please arrive at school at the time requested and ensure that your child is ready to come into school straight away. It is really important to exit the car swiftly because there will be lots of people waiting but please adhere to the Highway Code and ensure that seatbelts are worn until the vehicle stops. We politely ask that ALL parents to adhere to social distancing measures while dropping off and collecting children. If you are late, you are not able to drop off during another 'bubble's' drop off time. **YOU MUST NOT ENTER THE SCHOOL SITE AT ANY POINT.**

What should my child wear?

Our uniform is very important to us at Leighterton – it shows that we belong together and that is something that we have always been proud of. We look forward to welcoming children back in uniform. Children can wear winter or summer uniform: white t-shirts and grey shorts for boys, summer dresses OR winter uniform for girls. This should be worn with school shoes.

On PE days, children should come to school in their PE kits, ready for PE. They will be allowed to wear a PE hoody over the top of their school jumper, if they are cold, as we will keep the windows and doors open so the classrooms are well ventilated.

On Wednesdays, children should bring their Forest School clothes with them apart from Apsemore who should come to school dressed for Forest School. Apsemore will need their school uniform in a small bag to change into afterwards.

School lunch

We hope to be able to offer hot meals from Monday 8th March. Meals will be brought in from another kitchen and served in the school hall at the beginning. The tables will be deep cleaned between each bubble using them.

What should my child bring to school?

Children should bring as little as possible into school. Although children will be able to share general equipment in the classroom, they are unable to share pencils, glue sticks etc without them being deep cleaned between each person using them. Please would you provide KS2 children with a small pencil case containing a pencil, a rubber, a ruler marked with cms, a pen (for KS2 only), colouring pencils, a pencil sharpener and a glue stick. Bowldown children will need to bring colouring pencils and a glue stick. A pencil case and other equipment will be provided for Bowldown. All children will also need to bring their coat and hat, reading books and a healthy snack and lunch (if not having a school lunch).

Breakfast and After School Club

Breakfast and After School Club will be open and booking and payment may be made in the usual way. These clubs have moved to the middle room of the terrapin. We continue to ask any parent who drops off at Breakfast Club or collects from After School Club to remain outside.

Appointments at school

As we are unable to welcome visitors into school at present, parents are asked to contact school if they would like to speak to either me or one of the teaching team and we will arrange a mutually convenient time to talk.

Rapid Tests for Parents

From next Monday (8th March), parents of children who come to Leighterton Primary School will be able to take twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests, if they would like to. More information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week>

I know that many people are feeling anxious about the children returning and we will do all that we can to make sure the children are safe and comfortable although we will not be able to guarantee a Covid-19 free environment or social distancing. We will do our best to encourage your child/ children to follow social distancing measures outside their bubble.

We are really looking forward to returning to school (although we have never been closed) but know school will be very different for those children who are here. I hope that we will see you all on March 8th.

Yours sincerely

Meryl Hatfield