



# Lydbrook Primary School

School Road, Lydbrook, Gloucestershire, GL17 9PX

Head Teacher: Mr Simon T Lusted, M.Sc.



**ROBINS NURSERY**

4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I very much hope that this letter finds you all safe and well. The staff and I are very much looking forward to all of the children returning again and bringing the classes back together. We will be providing as near a normal classroom situation as possible and spending time settling your child back in so that they can grow with confidence following this recent lockdown and partial opening. This letter will provide you with the information that you need to be aware of for the full return. The school will run as it did on the full return in September last year. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support with the Home Learning and let us all hope that this will be the last time.

I understand that if your child has been at home since the end of Term 2 in December there may be a lot of anxiety surrounding them coming back into school. I hope the introduction of the Teams meetings will have helped your child feel linked to their class throughout their enforced break from the school. I can reassure you that Lydbrook Primary will continue to follow all the guidance ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)) to make the school as safe as possible for all the children to return. We will continue to operate regular cleaning, restricting and monitoring the numbers in the toilets (to 1 at a time), provide regular hand-washing opportunities and hand sanitisers in all classrooms and to include social distancing measures as much as possible. It is very important that your child is in school - the Government expects normal attendance and any absence will be followed up in the usual way. However, we do realise that for some pupils a full return, straight away, may cause some worries. We will do all we can to reassure and support them on their return and will exercise some flexibility to ensure that your child feels happy and confident to come to school. Please talk to me if your child is feeling anxious and we can look at a more flexible approach to ensure your child is in school full time as soon as possible.

It is important that you continue to monitor the health of your child for evidence of Covid symptoms. We will do the same and if we have any concern, we shall isolate your child and will need you to pick them up, straight away, following us contacting you. They will then need to be tested and if they are found positive, then they must self-isolate for 10 days along with the rest of the family.

## **Classroom set up**

Each class will continue to work as a "class bubble" as they did from September to December. This will be for the whole day including breaks, lunch and for the Joys Green Bus.

We will be settling the children in, allowing time for them to become accustomed with being back in school. It is also important for us to get back into the "learning" as quickly as possible and we will be spending time for the rest of this term, unpicking where the children are in their key areas of learning before moving onto new learning experiences. Next week, we will be looking at the importance of reading and linking it with World Book Day as well as devoting time to follow our PHSE programme to ensure all the children are feeling comfortable with the full return.

## **Staggered break and lunchtimes**

To keep social gatherings to lower numbers, we will continue to operate staggered break times and lunchtimes. Classes will remain in their "bubbles" at these times too.

I am pleased that our school kitchen will be open again from Monday and will be providing hot meals as an alternative to a packed lunch. Ordering and payment for any meals should be made, in the usual way, through Parent Pay. A copy of the menu is available on the school website and on Parent Pay. The children who have

ordered a school lunch will be eating their lunch in the main school hall and space will be provided for each class “bubble” with no more than 3 class bubbles eating at the same time. If your child has a packed lunch, they will stay inside their classroom base.

### **Arrival/dropping off**

We will be continuing to operate a staggered start and end of day and to use different gates to prevent larger gatherings. Please, only one parent per child. We also ask you as families to respect the “Face and Space” rules when dropping off/picking up to reinforce our efforts at school. It is very important that all adults wear a mask at these times.

For Early Years (both Robins and Owls), parents are allowed to enter the school site (with a Face Mask please) due to the age of the children. Please use the side gate only (lay-by side) to take your child up the steps and meet the staff outside the Early Year’s block.

It is also important not to come onto the school site unless it is to speak to the office or if you are a parent of a child in Early Years. A face covering will be required if you need to do this and to use the main entrance only.

### **Arrival**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Gate</b>	<b>Class entrance</b>
8.45-9.00	Hawks	Main gate	Straight to front entrance of bottom block
8.45-9.00	Magpies	Main gate	Reception entrance
8.45-9.00	Woodpeckers	Side Kitchen gate	Side door of classroom
8.45-9.00	Owls and Robins	Lay by side gate	Top of steps to early years block
8.45-9.00	Jays	Main gate	Classroom side door

There is a natural staggering in of the children in the morning and so the times are the same for all. It is important that everyone respects the “Face & Space” rules at this time.

### **Leaving**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Gate</b>	<b>Class entrance</b>
2.40 (to arrive at Joys Green – 2.50 p.m.)	Joys Green Bus pupils	Main gate	Escorted to bus by staff members
2.45	Early Years – Owls and Robins	Lay by side gate	Top of steps to early years block
2.45-2.50	Woodpeckers	Side Kitchen gate	Side door of classroom
2.45-2.50	Magpies	Main gate	Reception entrance
2.45-2.50	Older siblings in Jays and Hawks	Main gate	
Not before 2.55	Jays/Hawks (for pupils without younger siblings)	Main gate	Front/side entrance of bottom block

Collection should be made at the same school gate as used in the morning. It is also very important for parents to socially distance whilst waiting to wear a face mask and to leave promptly when the children come out. It is very important that parents follow this guidance to reduce the amount of contact and to help keep everyone safe.

## IMPORTANT ISSUE

These are difficult times and the school is situated in an area where there are no parking facilities. It is therefore important that everyone helps the situation by **NOT** driving up School Road in the mornings/afternoons but to allow enough time at the start and end of the day to WALK their children up and back down. We all need to work together to ensure the area around the school is kept as safe as possible. The PHSO will be monitoring the situation regularly and I will be noting the number plate information of any cars that continue to drive up and park in areas that are not to be used (e.g. on the double yellow lines/red path)

The Covid 19 situation has caused us all to change our ways of doing things and walking your child to school is an important change that we all need to make.

### Joys Green bus

Due to the restrictions, the children will be sitting in class bubbles for their journey to and back from school and spaces between class groups will occur if there are sufficient spaces to do so.

### Breakfast/After-school care club

This service is available for parents to use. Please contact the school office to book in your child/children. The club is run with a "zoning" system and children from the same class bubble will be allocated a space/table. When dropping off or picking up your child, it is important to collect from the foyer by the main entrance. Please ring the door bell and one of the staff members will pick up/bring your child/children to the foyer for collection.

### What to bring in

Items inside should be kept to the absolute minimum (and **NO BIG BAGS/RUCKSACKS please**) and there should be no toys or other resources that are not needed. Items should only include a coat, packed lunch box and a water bottle, which needs to come home daily and to be filled ready for the new school day. We will be sending home paper books once again for your child to practice their reading and home-to-school books for communication. These reading books will be re-issued to other children, following a 72 hours isolation period.

Please can the children bring back any resources (e.g. whiteboards) that were sent home to support the home learning.

Children should wear school uniform every day but come already changed into their PE kits on the day or days allocated for PE. On these days, they should also wear a school jumper/sweatshirt/fleece and coat if cold or wet.

We will be continuing to operate a longer morning and lunch times will be slightly later (from 12.10 infants and lower juniors and from 12.45 for the older juniors). It is important that your child has 2 healthy snacks with them which should include some fruit. Free fruit will be available from the 8<sup>th</sup> March for all children in Reception to Year 2 and milk (free for all children up to the age of 5) needs to be ordered on-line from Coolmilk.

Communication with your child's teacher should continue through e-mail but, as all the children will be returning, your e-mail enquiry will not be answered until after the school day.

Thanks and best wishes

**Simon Lusted**  
**Head Teacher**

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