



BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL - CHILDREN, YOUNG  
PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

# Langley School

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5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## RE: Return to School

I am currently providing support to Langley School and have been working here for the last two weeks. I am the Head teacher at Hamilton School. I have enjoyed speaking to some of you on the phone and at the front of the school. Clearly, the school is facing some challenges, but I am very pleased that we are working collaboratively to resolve them. This is evidenced by the suspension of strike action this week and next week. Two more days are scheduled on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March, and we will notify you of any developments. I have been struck by the positivity, warmth and commitment of the staff, and I know that they are doing their best to ensure that all the children benefit from the full reopening on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.

All special school staff in Birmingham have recently been offered the vaccine, and most staff within Langley school have now had the first dose. Many staff are continuing to access the twice-weekly lateral flow tests. Please note that we are not able to share the staff who have partaken in the vaccination or twice weekly lateral flow testing.

Several routines established before Christmas will continue. Although some small adjustments have been made to ensure they are in line with government guidelines. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight some key points:

## School Attendance

School attendance will be mandatory for all children from 8<sup>th</sup> March, unless they have received a shielding letter. It is vital for pupils and students to attend school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, wellbeing, and wider development.

If your child has received a shielding letter, you may be asked to supply a copy of the shielding letter sent to CEV children to confirm that they are advised not to attend school whilst shielding guidance is in place.

## Transport

Pupils who previously travelled to school on transport will continue to do so. Children will share a bus with children within their bubble. We believe bus guides will be wearing face coverings, and windows will be open to provide ventilation.



CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

## Parents and visitors on the school premises

We are asking that only one parent/carer accesses the school site. When on the school site, please maintain social distancing and wear a face covering, unless you are exempt. Markings on the floor will assist parents/ carers when waiting. This is following the government guidance.

The school will continue to limit visitors, however we will ensure that essential visitors are able to attend, such as professionals who support our children and essential maintenance. Visitors will need to make a prior booking to access the school site.

## Collection and drop off times for children who do not access transport

Parents/ carers should drop off their children at the main office at 8.45am and collect their children from the main office at 3.15pm. Please ensure you arrive promptly and avoid arriving early or late as this supports social distancing with our co-located school and nursery.

## Uniform

Children should wear school uniform where possible, however we are aware that changes may be needed such as children outgrowing uniform or the need for an additional jumper to wear inside. We must ensure that there is ventilation within the classrooms and a window must be open – this is to allow for natural airflow. Please send your child with an additional jumper that they can keep inside their bag.

## Class Bubbles

Social distancing continues to be challenging for many of our children, so additional measures have been put in place to support the children.

A maximum of 15 children will be in the class at any one time joined with their staff team. The maximum number of children who will spend time together would be two classes (maximum of 29 children), accompanied by some class staff, and this would be on the playground where there is adequate space and ventilation to social distance.

## PE

On the day your child has PE, please send them in appropriate trousers and shoes e.g., joggers and trainers. This will reduce the risk of close contact between staff and pupils if they require support getting changed. Some PE lessons will be taking place outdoors, so please also send them with a warm jumper on these days.

PE days are:

Oaks & Firs – Tuesday\* & Friday

Rowans – Monday & Thursday\*

Willows – Tuesday and Thursday\*

Acers & Beeches – Tuesday & Wednesday\*

Poplars & Larches – Monday\* & Thursday

Maples – Friday\*

\*outside PE session



## **Cleaning & hygiene**

The school has appointed an additional cleaner who works throughout the school day focussing on cleaning contact points and toilets. Staff will continue to promote regular washing of hands at key points during the school day. Hand sanitiser gel is also available to use within the school.

## **Contact with school**

If you need to make contact with your child's class team, please use Seesaw or contact the school office if it is urgent.

## **School Meals**

From 8<sup>th</sup> March, our school kitchen will be open and providing hot food for our children. Children will continue to eat their dinner in the classroom to maintain their bubbles. To see the latest copy of our school menu, please look on the school website.

## **Reminder – what to do if you have symptoms of Coronavirus**

To ensure the safety of children and adults at Langley school, children, staff and other adults must **not** come into school if:

- They have one or more coronavirus symptoms:
  - A high temperature
  - A new, continuous cough
  - A loss or change of sense of smell or taste
- a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.
- They are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area
- They have had a positive test result.

They must immediately stop attending school and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:

- The start of their symptoms
- the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test)

Yours Sincerely

Jon Harris

