



LILY LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Headteacher : Ms Julia Clark

21st February 2021

Dear families,

We hope everyone has managed to have a happy and safe half term .We are looking forward to welcoming up to 130 children back into school tomorrow. Children who were in school already before the holiday will **return on Monday 22nd**. Children who have been invited to return after half term will commence **from Tuesday 23rd**. **You should have received an email detailing all of the necessary information.**

If your child is continuing to learn at home, we have prepared new packs which will be delivered or can be collected from tomorrow. If you are able to please remind your child to log onto the learning platform tomorrow morning to get the week started.

As you know, we have all worked incredibly hard throughout the pandemic to put measures in place to ensure your child is kept safe and well at Lily Lane. We are extremely proud of the way our staff and school community have adapted and continued to put the children at the forefront throughout the pandemic.

During the half term, a new Covid-19 variant has been identified in Moston and the surrounding area, and a new surge testing site, located close to school, has opened as part of ongoing efforts to identify and isolate cases. Tests are being offered to everyone aged over 16 who lives, works or studies within a certain boundary in Moston or Harpurhey - even if they have no Covid symptoms. People who have received a Covid vaccine, or have previously been tested for the virus, still need to get a test.

We would kindly ask that you follow all of the advice that has been communicated to households in the area in order to reduce the spread of infection. If you know that you haven't completely followed social distancing guidance and may have been in close contact with anyone outside of your household bubble, please make sure that you have been tested before your child/children return to school. This is to ensure the safety of the whole school community and it is crucial that you adhere to Government guidance and Lockdown rules.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of our school expectations in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. We hope that you understand that, for the whole school community's safety, they are changes that we must put in place and will include:

- Arrows showing a one-way system when entering and exiting the school grounds.
- No access to the main office at this time.
- Designated waiting areas at pick up times.
- An expectation that adults will socially distance at all times.
- High expectations for parents/carers to be on time when dropping off and picking up.
- An expectation to leave the premises promptly after drop-off and collection times.
- Wherever possible, only one family member to collect children.
- Please do not allow any children to play in the MUGA or any play areas including the nursery.

These arrangements are not how we would normally wish to run school. However, we hope that you understand that they are necessary to minimise the risk of spreading Covid-19. We would request that all adults on the school



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premises follow these guidelines, are thoughtful and respectful, and work with the school to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Social Distancing

We expect our school community to socially distance at all times, inside the school grounds, when outside of the school, either on the way into or home from school, during evenings and at weekends. Please can we remind families not to congregate near entry and exit points. For any preventative measures and current guidance to be as effective as it can be, it is imperative that we all practise social distancing at all times both inside and outside of school. This is because within school there are measures in place to prevent the spread of the virus. These measures are not present when children are socialising together outside of the school environment and therefore the potential for transmission is significantly increased – not just between children, but also anyone else they may come into contact with while out in the community.

Face coverings

We do encourage you to wear face coverings during drop-off and pick-up times when entering the school site.

We appreciate the start of the 2020/21 school year has been difficult for many, and many of your children will have been looking forward to returning to school after the Christmas break. They may, like you, feel anxious or frustrated by the present situation. However, it is vital that we come together, follow all of the guidance to keep safe and to support each other so that we can ensure schools can return fully at the earliest opportunity, and we can look ahead to more positive times.

We are expecting further guidance from the Government tomorrow when we hopefully will know more about the proposed plans for schools to re-open more widely from March 8th. We will keep you updated as and when the information is communicated.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ms Clark.