



# LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday  
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## **Returning to School from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As our procedures and routines for reopening next week are finalised and our revised risk assessment process almost complete, I am now able to write to you with further details about how we intend to keep our school community safe over the coming weeks and how you and your child can make a positive contribution to these systems.

### **What will School be doing to keep everyone safe?**

- Staff are engaged in LFD testing twice a week to identify asymptomatic cases;
- Staff and pupils will continue to practice good personal and respiratory hygiene with frequent handwashing and catch-it, bin-it, kill-it procedures;
- Staff will be keeping their distance from one another and we will be minimising the movement of staff between groups where we are can;
- We will continue to use our one-way systems around school;
- Desks are arranged to avoid face-to-face interactions between pupils for prolonged periods of time in Skiddaw and Scafell classrooms;
- Staff will be continuing to wear masks in communal areas (as they have done since January) but not when leading teaching and learning in classrooms. This is inline with more recent DfE guidance that has been in place since the beginning of term, but is due to be reviewed at Easter. Primary school children are not expected to wear masks at any time;
- We will continue with regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and resources;
- All areas in school will be well-ventilated;
- Playtimes, lunchtimes and outdoor sessions for PE are allocated differently for each group;
- Assemblies will not take place in our hall, but in classrooms instead;
- All pupils will eat lunch in our dining room which is carefully cleaned before and after use by each group;
- We are restricting visitors, including parents, from entering our school building unless essential.

Parents and children are an important part of keeping our school virus free. Please may I ask you to read this information so that you and your child can prepare for returning to school next week. There are some changes to the routines we had in place during the autumn term and after a period of time away from school, it would be helpful for you and your child/children to ensure you are clear of our expectations and procedures.

### **Is my child fit and well?**

It is essential that you only bring your child to school if they are fit and well. As you know the three main symptoms related to Covid-19 are: a loss of taste or smell, a temperature



and/or a new continuous cough. There are other symptoms that we are being asked to look out for: fatigue, diarrhoea, sore throat and headache. If your child has any of these symptoms, then keep them at home until they are better. Please remember that there needs to be 48hour period after the last incidence of sickness or diarrhoea before your child can return to school. Let us know if your child is unable to attend and the reason using the usual procedures - emailing the office or telephoning between 8.30-9am.

If the symptoms are one of the three main Covid-19 symptoms, you should book a PCR test and all members of your household should self-isolate following the government's stay at home guidance which can be found [here](#). Please let us know if you or a member of your household is going for a test as a result of displaying symptoms and then inform us of the result as soon as you receive it, even if it is to report a negative outcome.

### **Before you come to school:**

- please ensure your child is wearing full school uniform and sensible school shoes. Your child needs a coat in school every day. Children are permitted to come to school in PE kits on their PE day;
- Reception and Nursery children should keep a separate bag with a complete set of clean clothes on their peg throughout this term;
- your child may bring a small bag into school each day containing essential items only: a lunch box (if required), a water bottle, a snack (KS2 only), a hat and coat, reading books and reading records. Please leave all home learning completed during the first part of this term at home.
- It is really important to ensure that everything that comes into school is very clearly named to avoid over handling. Children need to be responsible for bringing their own items into school independently, including any letters or envelopes for the school office.

### **A staggered start and end to our School day:**

To ensure everyone can arrive at school safely and to enable parents to socially distance from one another, each family should continue to arrive within the allocated 10minute window. Pupils in Skiddaw and Scafell will be expected to enter and leave the building independently, where as one member of the Bowfell team will be on the playground to support our youngest children arriving at school.

<b>Family Group</b>	<b>Arrival onto School site</b>	<b>Departure from School site</b>
Badgers	8.30am-8.40am	2.45pm-2.55pm
Foxes	8.40am-8.50am	2.55pm-3.05pm
Owls	8.50am-9am	3.05pm-3.15pm

You will receive a text this week to remind you of your designated family group.

This system is designed to avoid parents waiting on the playground and ensure that the playground can be vacated to enable other groups to arrive or collect their children safely. As soon as you have collected your children, move out of the playground promptly and do not stay to talk to other parents or staff.

Staff will be doing their utmost to ensure your child is brought outside for collection at the start of your allotted time, but if you are waiting, please stand away from the narrow entrance to school by the dining room so that other parents can arrive onto the playground safely.

**Remember:**

- please ensure you continue to use our one-way system through the school site. Arrive through the main entrance on Church Road (not the staff carpark) and leave via the white gate onto Levens Playing Fields leaving the gates open;
- please come alone to collect your child/children.
- scooters and bicycles are not permitted on our school grounds until further notice;
- please ensure you maintain social distancing;
- please keep your distance from the school building and Bowfell’s outdoor area. The cones on our playground mark this boundary;
- say goodbye to your child and move out of the playground promptly;
- do not allow your child/children to play on our adventure trail in the playground or on the ramps to our dining hall and our zen building. If you have younger children with you, please ensure they stay at your side whilst you wait to collect your child.

**Communicating with School:**

Staff will not be available for conversations on the playground at start or the end of the school day, so we will continue to use our class email accounts to contact parents or arrange a telephone conversation if considered necessary. We would encourage parents to contact us using these emails in the first instance with any questions or concerns.

bowfell@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	Nursery, Reception and Year 1
skiddaw@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	Years 2, 3 and 4
scafell@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	Years 5 and 6
office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	To report an absence/to communicate urgent information

We will be hosting parent-teacher appointments for all pupils before the Easter holidays. Further details will be shared soon.

**YoYo After School Club:**

YoYo after school provision is available Monday –Thursday from 3pm until 5.15pm. As children from different bubbles will be accessing this care, we will be making use of the outdoors as much as possible and ensuring children from different bubbles are socially distancing. Please contact Mrs Coker if you wish to book your child a place.

Remember that we need 24 hours’ notice if you wish to cancel your child’s place to avoid being charged.

**Music Tuition:**

We are hoping to restart guitar, piano and violin lessons during the week beginning Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Further details to follow.

**Final Live Class Catch-ups:**

These are taking place on Friday morning so please look out for an email from your child's classteacher and a Teams invite.

Look out for further news on our website that is being posted this week including welcome back photographs and videos; and updated class pages with curriculum information and timetables.

**PE during week commencing Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March:**

With a focus on wellbeing and being active, every child will be engaged in some form of outdoor physical exercise every day. Therefore, we would like children from Reception to year 6 to come to school in their PE kits every day next week.

Please be reassured that we will be doing all we can to ensure your child feels happy, safe and confident and that we adhere to all the procedures with the utmost care and attention so the impact of another positive case would be significantly reduced.

All the staff are very much looking forward to welcoming our pupils back on Monday, as well as seeing some new faces!

With my very best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Farraday".

Jane Farraday