



September 2020 Opening Arrangements for Knowsley Lane

Dear Parents/ Carers

I hope that you and your children are all happy, safe and have enjoyed the summer break. Everyone at Knowsley Lane is very excited to welcome our children safely back into school in September. Please read this letter carefully for information on what is expected when we fully open to everyone so we can keep everyone safe and continue to learn and flourish. The government has published further advice please login to [gov.uk/backtoschool](https://www.gov.uk/backtoschool) to read the latest information.

Bubbles

The children are going to be grouped into bubbles. There will be four bubbles.

EYFS bubble	Nursery and Reception
Key Stage 1 bubble	Year 1, Year $\frac{1}{2}$ and Year 2
Lower Key Stage 2 bubble	Year 3, Year $\frac{3}{4}$ and Year 4
Upper Key Stage 2 bubble	Year 5 and Year 6

The children in a bubble will use the same exits, entrances, playgrounds and they will eat their lunch together. This will support us in reducing the opportunity for cross-contamination. If there is a reported case of a child or member of staff contracting COVID 19 then your child's bubble will be sent home for the government's recommended period of time.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club will be open from 8:15 until 8.30. The entrance will now be directly into the school hall. Children will sit within their bubbles to eat their breakfast. All children who are wanting to attend breakfast club will need to be added to the register. Breakfast Club continues to be just 50p per day. This will need to be paid using the school's new cashless system on Arbor.

Uniform / equipment

Children are required to wear the Knowsley Lane School uniform from September. Please remember to name all your children's clothes. Children are allowed to bring a lunchbox, a reading bag, a PE kit and a bottle of water. Children are not allowed to bring in personal items such as pencil cases etc. Reading books will be being sent home and then safely stored on their return. Children will be provided with hand sanitiser so there is no requirement for them to bring their own.

There is no requirement for children to wear facemasks. If children do wear one on the way to school we ask that children safely remove it and bring a small plastic bag to store it in during the day.

Morning and home time arrangements

Due to the size of the school and the number of entrances we have not needed to plan to have staggered start and finish times. However, to make this work safely **we will need the support of all parents and carers and ask you all to follow the guidelines and social distancing**. We will assess the situation during the first week back and may need to introduce staggered starts.

In a morning the gates to the school playground will be open from 8.45. We do not want anyone to come to school any earlier than this. Therefore aim to arrive between 8.45 and 9.00. Please line up outside your child's entrance into the playground maintaining social distancing. There will be a member of staff on the gate to welcome your child into school. We ask that parents of KS1 and KS2 children do not enter the playground in the morning.

Nursery	Enter from gate 3. The gate nearest to St Columbus school. Then the door for nursery is near the tyres at the top of the playground. Parents, please wear facemasks.
Reception	Enter from gate 3. The gate nearest to St Columbus school. Parent and child to wait on the socially distanced lines until it is their turn to enter. Parents, please wear facemasks. Parent to take their child up the ramp, say goodbye and then exit down the steps.
Year 1, 1/2 and 2	Enter from gate 2. Children enter from the second gate on Astley road. This will be labelled 'Gate 2'.
Year 3, 3/4 and 4	Enter from gate 1. Children enter from the first gate on Astley road, this will be labelled 'Gate 1' and then enter the school through the boy's cloakroom door.
Year 5 and 6	Children enter from the gate near the car park.

We ask that parents **do not** gather outside the school building to help keep us all safe.

Home time

The gates will be open at 3.10. Again I ask that you do not arrive at school before this time. One parent per family to collect the children. Can adults entering the school grounds please wear facemasks. There will be an allocated area for you to wait for children. This will be posted on Class Dojo. Please maintain social distancing whilst waiting in these areas. There will be signs with the teachers' names on showing where you collect your children and there will be members of staff to direct you.

Nursery	Children to exit through the entrance
Reception	Miss Tomlinson's class will exit at the side door. Mrs Murphy's class will exit down the ramp.
Year 1	The door near Mrs Whittle and Piper's Office
Year ½	The door between reception and KS1.
Year 2	The normal KS1 exit
Year 3	The entrance near the girl's toilet
Year ¾	The hall
Year 4	The hall
Year 5	The normal KS 2 exit
Year 6	The normal KS 2 exit

Again please can we ask that you head straight home and don't allow your children on the playground equipment. Please make sure that you are on time because we cannot mix children from different bubbles in the main office.

Handwashing

In line with the government guidelines, we will be supporting your children in the frequent washing of hands to support keeping the school a safe place.

Free School Meals

From September, the government will no longer issue vouchers for free school meals. We will return to all pupils in Reception, Y1 and Y2 being entitled to a universal free school meal and pupils from Y3 to Y6 will receive free schools if they are entitled. If you believe you may be entitled to free school meals then please contact Knowsley Council to complete an application.

School Lunches

Mellors, our new catering company will be providing school meals from September. Their menus can be found on the school website.

'Over the Rainbow Curriculum'

We recognise that a lot of your children have not been in school since March and may have a number of concerns and anxieties in returning to school. Therefore for the first couple of weeks, we are going to be following our 'Over the Rainbow Curriculum' this will provide plenty of opportunities for children to settle back into life at Knowsley Lane. They will also be completing the IPC Brainwave unit and learning how to learn.

Meet the teacher/ additional support

On Tuesday 8th and 15th, September teaching staff will be available to meet with you and introduce themselves and the exciting things they have planned for the coming year. This will be by appointment only. More information to follow.

If anyone feels like they may need some extra support in settling their child back into school please feel free to contact myself or Mrs Whittle.

Visiting school

If you need to visit school please ring to make an appointment. Whilst visiting school or entering the School Office please wear a face covering.

Cashless

From September Knowsley Lane will be a cashless school. This means that payment of breakfast club, school dinners, uniforms etc. will all be through an app. Everyone should have received a letter with this information on. If not please contact the School Office for support.

Behaviour Policy

Our behaviour policy will have an added appendix to support everyone in keeping safe during this global pandemic. I will share this with you during the first week back and ask for your continued support in ensuring Knowsley Lane is as safe as it possibly can be.

Attendance

Attendance is extremely important during the coming months. Through no fault of their own children have missed being in school for a number of months, therefore, we want all the children in and learning as soon as possible. If you have any concerns for your child please contact Mrs Whittle who will support.

Home Learning

During the first couple of weeks, we will be teaching your children how to navigate and use a variety of websites. We will also prepare home learning packs and survey families to find out who has access to devices and the Internet. This will support us if we need to close a bubble to ensure that learning is continuing.

Travelling to school

We are recommending that children walk or safely cycle to school where possible.

Illness / Track and Trace

If your child or a member of your family are displaying any of the symptoms of Corona Virus please can you self-isolate and arrange a test. Please keep the school informed of any illness and any positive tests. This way we can all do our part to protect the Knowsley Lane family and keep everyone safe. We will follow the government guidelines linked to 'Track and Trace'.

PE

When possible PE sessions will be held outside. If children are in KS2 (Y3, 4, 5, 6) can they please come to school on their allocated PE day wearing their PE kit (they can wear black jogging pants if it is cold). This information will be sent out on Class Dojo by the class teacher.

Building work

As you may have seen the school has undergone a lot of building work over the summer, including a new roof. There is still some work being completed and scaffolding will remain up around the front of school until October.

Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to time to read all this information and I hope that you feel reassured that we are doing everything possible to keep our school community safe and ensure it is a place for our little people to continue to thrive. Please be mindful that anything could change at any time and I will update you with any information as soon as I can.

I am looking forward to seeing you all and welcoming your children back into Knowsley Lane.

Thank you for your continued support during this transition period.

Kindest Regards,

Emma Dilworth

Acting Principal