



Langtoft Primary School

School Closure – Update #8

Thursday 14 May 2020

Stay alert. Control the virus. Save lives.

This update outlines the plans for week beginning 18 May 2020.

Next update due on Thursday 21 May 2020.

'SCHOOLS TO REOPEN OF 1 JUNE FOR SOME PUPILS'

Primary schools in England are to 'begin to welcome' back pupils from 1 June at the earliest. Children in the EYFS ('reception'), Y1 and Y6 are to be the first to return – if the government's five tests are met.

With this in mind, I am planning how we can safely reopen the school for children in the three year groups. This is the timetable for the sharing of the plan:

From Friday 15 May	Headteacher shares 'return plan' with staff and with PlayZone Kids Club and invites questions
Tuesday 19 May at 6pm	Headteacher shares his response to questions and presents amended return plan to full governing body for approval
Wednesday 20 May	Headteacher and Caretaker set up school in line with plan and photograph the teaching areas so that they may be included in the return plan.
Thursday 21 May	<i>School Closure Update #9</i> contains return plan with photographs so that relevant parents can make an informed choice about sending their child back to school. Relevant parents asked to complete online form via ParentMail to indicate likely numbers of children returning in each year group on 1 June.
Tuesday 26 May at 12pm noon	ParentMail form closes. This is also the last date and time to order a universal infant free school meal (EYFS and Y1 only) with The Farm Kitchen.
Wednesday 27 May	Relevant staff prepare school for opening on 1 June.
Thursday 28 May	<i>School Closure Update #10</i> confirms return plan with parents ready for...
Monday 1 June	School reopens to groups of children.

There are **four** things that are very important to me as we prepare to reopen the school:

1. Staff are **comfortable and confident** about returning to school on 1 June. That is why I will share the plan with them first and invite their questions. They will think of things that I have not.

2. You as parents are **assured** that the plan has been thoroughly thought through. If I was in your position, I would want to know **what** my child was returning to **then** I could make an **informed** decision.
3. The children deserve a calm, well-ordered, as-close-to-normal-as-possible return to school. This is a big deal. I want them to be with **their** teacher in **their** classroom with **their** friends where possible.
4. The school environment is a **safe place** to be. During the school closure, our site and cleaning staff have done a brilliant job of deep cleaning every room in the school. We've already broken one Vax carpet cleaner through over-use!

At this stage, you should know that the return plan – as it stands – does not allow for **every** child in the three year groups (EYFS, Y1 and Y6) to return to school **every** day. In addition, the government has confirmed that parents will not be fined if their child does not attend school from 1 June so you should not feel under pressure to send your child back to school.

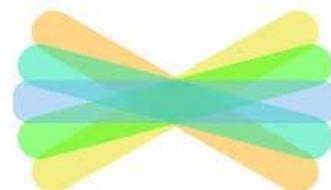
FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

Thank you for the many emails we have received thanking us for the Friday Assembly video. It seemed to arrive at just the right time to give the children's spirits a lift. If you got a laugh out of it, parents, then even better! The video has been viewed over 350 times which I think makes us an internet sensation, or something. Please be aware that the video will be removed tomorrow afternoon and a new one put in its place. Regrettably, I am unable to host this week's Friday assembly...

SEESAW

We are encouraged by the number of posts on Seesaw. The teachers are enjoying viewing the children's learning. Your emails tell me that your children are enjoying reading the comments from their teacher.

Now that we are in the second week of using Seesaw, we ask that **only posts connected to learning are uploaded**. Please select the 'best' learning to post. I ask this because some children are posting upwards of 60 posts per week. Multiply this by 30 children in a class...



I am commenting on as many accounts as I can get through. As we have the 'trial' version of Seesaw, I am logged on as Mrs Britten for every year group but am easy to spot as I start my comment with 'MR MCCULLOUGH ADDS:...' Since the announcement of the plan to reopen schools on 1 June, I have been somewhat distracted away from Seesaw but hope to be able to add more comments soon.

Please be respectful that Seesaw has not been introduced as a means to message your child's teacher/s. If you need to contact your child's teacher/s, please do so in the usual way by sending an email or by telephoning the school. See **NEED HELP?** section below.

The information below is unchanged from last week apart from statements in red:

NEED HELP?

If you are struggling with supporting your child with a particular area of learning (and 'google' hasn't provided the answer!), please be reminded that you can ask for help by emailing me at enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk State your child's name, year group and outline your problem. I can then forward this to your child's teacher/s who will be happy to help where they can. Please expect a reply in about two days.

KEEPING SAFE

With online activity likely to have increased during the lockdown, now is probably a good time to have another chat with your children about how they keep themselves safe online. I have updated our eSafety page on the school website.

THE SCHOOL CONTINUES TO BE CLOSED

To limit the chance of the virus spreading, the government has asked parents to keep their children at home and has asked schools to **remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend** because i) their parents' work is critical to the COVID-19 response ii) they are vulnerable children with an Education and Health Care Plan and/or a Social Worker. This message has now gotten through as we only have a very small number of children who need to access the school's childcare offer. This is only possible because staff are prepared to come to school and so I thank them most sincerely. **The school will be closed to the children of key workers and to vulnerable children on Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 May 2020 as the school prepares to reopen on 1 June.**

INFORMING THE SCHOOL THAT YOU NEED CHILDCARE

If you need to use the school for childcare because you are worker critical to the COVID-19 response and you have no other option, you must email me using the school's email address: enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk, stating:

- i) your child/ren's names
- ii) which sessions you require (morning and/or afternoon) on which days
- iii) the nature of your critical work

Please send your email **before and no later than 11:30 a.m. the day before** you need the school to be open for your child. For example, if you need to work on Thursday, you must have emailed by 11:30 a.m. of the morning of Wednesday. If you know in advance what your work pattern will be then please let me know for the week ahead. That will help me to plan.

If parents do not need childcare for their critical work, I will close the school that day.