



31st August 2021

Dear Parents,

After a tricky end of term for many pupils and staff, who had to isolate (thank you for your co-operation) and a period of rest and relaxation, we look forward to welcoming you all back to school. We also look forward to welcoming new pupils, including our children starting school for the first time. Many of these children haven't yet met their teachers or seen their classrooms and so will need support in finding their feet in their new learning environment.

I imagine parents are curious to know how school will operate after 18 months of change. The Department for Education published Schools Covid -19 Operational Guidance on August 17th and I summarise it below. In a nutshell, the guidance tells schools that most changes imposed during Covid are no longer necessary although schools themselves should risk assess constantly and respond. We have determined to stay cautious and maintain some of the rules and routines that we have had in place throughout the pandemic which we can relax when we feel secure in doing so.

From September 2nd:

- Morning routines will stay as they were in the Summer Term.

Drop Off

8.45am Y3 and Y6
8.50am Y1 and Y4
8.55am Y2 and Y5
9.00am Reception

This allows us to maintain handwashing and follow rules around hygiene which do remain in place in our risk assessment.

- We return to Pre-Covid End of the Day routines

School Finishes:

Reception 15.10
KS1 15.15
KS2 15.20

- Day to day, face coverings on site are optional, however, parents and visitors are asked to respect the safety of others and maintain social distance; and wear a face covering if asked. Face coverings will still be required when parents and visitors enter the school building.
- We will continue to re-introduce school extra-curricular activities (clubs) and Early Birds and Night Owls will continue to operate and year groups will no longer need to be separated. Bookings will continue to require for Night Owls.

Headteacher Mrs C Armistead Slyne Road, Lancaster LA1 2JH

Telephone 01524 65445 Website skertonstlukes.lancs.sch.uk





- Internally we continue to manage our break times and lunch times in class bubbles, however mixing between classes are allowed when children are sharing the playground etc.
- We will hold back on whole school assemblies in the hall. We will have Key Stage Worship and Class Worship and I will continue to do my Friday Celebration Worship and share it through Class Dojo.
- Ventilation remains an essential aspect to school life and therefore we will be continuing to have windows and doors open as much as possible. While this will hopefully be comfortable through this half term, I do suggest that you continue to provide layers for your child/ children to wear in school. Children can continue to wear their school hoodies as part of the general school uniform.

The impact of classes mixing will be carefully monitored. We also look forward to the delivery of promised carbon monoxide monitors to check ventilation. We are hopeful that we will be able to lift limits on internal mixing and we won't have to re-introduce any restrictions but will respond as the situation emerges.

The following is a summary of the government's guidance which essentially, we will follow:

There are three key changes:

1. Mixing and 'bubbles'

Keeping pupils or students in year group or classroom bubbles to reduce mixing is no longer a requirement.

2. Tracing close contacts

Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace. Education settings are no longer expected to undertake contact tracing.

3. Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas.

Coronavirus hasn't gone away so there will still be a need for schools, pupils and students to follow basic measures to avoid the spread of the virus:

1. Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools.
2. Ensuring good hygiene including frequent and thorough hand cleaning and the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
3. Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes.
4. Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.
5. Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

The guidance in full can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance?utm_source=18%20August%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Headteacher Mrs C Armistead Slyne Road, Lancaster LA1 2JH

Telephone 01524 65445 Website skertonstlukes.lancs.sch.uk



I am hopeful that we are now entering a period where good hygiene, national vaccine and test & trace programmes enable schools to put the focus on Covid-19 in the past; we truly hope so.

The children, staff and parents have worked hard to maintain learning and a sense of normality, and staff will continue to provide extra support in the coming months. We have two new teaching assistants, a new admin officer and one new teacher this September and I trust you will make them all feel very welcome and a part of the St Luke's Family. We look forward to welcoming the children on Thursday.

Please, continue to look after yourselves and each other.

Yours,

Catherine Armistead
Headteacher

School Information

Contact with school

We continue to recommend that you make contact with staff through the many different options we have in place, rather than face to face. We want nothing more than to be able to converse face to face with everyone once more, our risk assessment continues to keep this in place as we monitor what happens with the virus during the first half of the Autumn Term. We encourage you to make contact via contact-us@skertonstlukes.lancs.sch.uk, messaging teachers through Class Dojo or calling 01524 65445.

It is also essential that parents have access to Parent APP and Class Dojo as much school information is shared this way and we will continue to do this post COVID.

Whilst we appreciate this isn't ideal, yet. We will continue to monitor and amend the risk assessment as we assess the situation.

Arrival at school

As stated above, we continue with morning routine that was in place in the summer term:

Drop Off

8.45am Y3 and Y6
8.50am Y1 and Y4
8.55am Y2 and Y5
9.00am Reception

If you have more than one child at school, you can drop both at the earliest allotted time. The children will go into school as a class at the allotted time in order to access hand washing facilities easily and safely.

The doors are locked at 9.00am once the children are in school.

Headteacher Mrs C Armistead Slyne Road, Lancaster LA1 2JH
Telephone 01524 65445 Website skertonstlukes.lancs.sch.uk





Late Arrivals

Children arriving late should be accompanied by an adult to the School Office at the front of school. Parents and visitors must sign in and enter school through the secure entrance at the front of school. If you arrive late after 9.00am and the doors are locked, children must be accompanied to the school office through the doors at the front of school and be signed in. If your child arrives after 9:15am they will be marked in the register as unauthorised 'late after registers closed'. You may be subject to a penalty notice if your child is consistently late for school.

Smoking and Dogs

We are a smoke-free premises and site. Parents are also reminded that when on the school premises (including passage from Vale Road and pedestrian driveway) dogs are not allowed.

Appointments

We cannot allow children to leave school e.g. for a dental or medical appointment before the end of day, unless collected by a parent or responsible adult. We ask all parents in KS1 at the beginning of every year to provide school with a list of adults who have permission to collect their child. The list must be kept up to date at all times. If an adult attempts to collect a child and their name does not appear on the list, we will refuse them.

End of school day

Pick Up

Reception 15.10
KS1 15.15
KS2 15.20

At the end of the day infant children are dismissed from the hall and school doors when they let the teacher know they have spotted their parent. Therefore, it is helpful to your child to stand in a similar area each day. Parents of reception children collect children outside reception (Parents give a list of people to whom we may release reception children.)

Parents meet junior children: on the playground near the front entrance to school, on the drive, outside the gates, a distance from the school; and some children walk home alone or with friends. It helps school if we are aware of the routine and are notified of any changes. Children need to know their routine and that if there is no one to meet them as usual they must go to the school office to wait and not walk home alone.

Parking

When dropping off or collecting your child, please park with consideration. Do not park across resident's

Headteacher Mrs C Armistead Slyne Road, Lancaster LA1 2JH

Telephone 01524 65445 Website skertonstlukes.lancs.sch.uk





SKERTON
ST LUKE'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

drives or park on the grass embankment across from school. We suggest you park at the community centre which in itself is safer as you do not have to cross the main road. Do not 'stop' or 'park' on the yellow zig zag lines outside school – this is dangerous and illegal. Penalty tickets have recently been issued.

Uniform

Children **MUST** wear full uniform including **black school shoes**, except on PE days. On PE days we encourage children to come to school in PE clothes (school t-shirt, track pants or shorts and trainers)

No rucksacks or other bags. Book bags, lunch boxes and water bottles only please. Long hair **MUST** be tied back and **all jewellery must be removed**.

Please ensure all items are labelled with your child's name.

Headteacher Mrs C Armistead Slyne Road, Lancaster LA1 2JH

Telephone 01524 65445 Website skertonstlukes.lancs.sch.uk

