

2nd September 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

I hope you and your families are all well and that you are having a lovely summer.

Apologies for not getting the arrangements for September to you earlier, but we are still awaiting an updated risk assessment from the Local Authority Health and Safety Team. We are now not expecting this until next week and will review our own arrangements in line with this when it arrives.

The latest DfE guidance outlines that individual class or key stage bubbles are no longer required. NHS test and trace will be identifying close contacts, rather than schools, and individual class bubbles will not be necessary unless we are informed that infection rates are high in our area. School staff or students are not required to wear face coverings on the school site. We will therefore be lifting a number of the restrictions in school while also wanting to be careful and maintain a safe environment for students, staff and parents. Our focus for this year is to create a safe and effective learning environment for all students.

Arrangements for Start Times and Collections

School will start at 8:45am and close at 3:15pm.

Staff will be available to welcome students into school. Please do not come into school grounds with your child at this time. If parents need to attend an on-site meeting, this will be arranged by a member of staff in advance. Although face masks are no longer mandatory for adults around the school site, we would appreciate and advise that you wear these, especially where it is difficult to maintain social distancing.

Transport

Please ensure that you have contacted transport where relevant to confirm arrangements. Whilst school have informed transport organisation of the start dates, it would be advisable to confirm this on an individual basis.

The DfE guidance states:



Lighthouse School, Leeds

Arthington House, Hospital Lane, Leeds LS16 6QB

☎: 0113 4570605 Email: admin@lighthouseschool.co.uk

www.lighthouseschool.co.uk

- Students are encouraged to wear face covering on transport and remove them on entry to school
- Drivers and escorts are not required to wear PPE



Lunchtimes and the Hall

Lunchtime arrangements will return to students eating lunch in the school hall and outside (if they choose to do so). Hot meals will be available to all students if pre ordered.

We will also be able to meet together in the hall for collective worships and celebration assemblies – with a social distance gap between Key Stages.

Equipment

School will continue to provide individual equipment and stationary for each student. Students need to bring in their own individual water bottle on a daily basis.

PE/Uniforms

Last year we were flexible to student attire to support wearing clean and fresh clothes every day. We are now requesting we return to full school uniform.

We will be continuing to allow students to come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE. School will confirm which day this is after the first day in school. On all other days, students should be in school wearing full school uniform. Students should be wearing school shoes (smart black shoes) on non-PE days and trainers on their PE days.

Contract Tracing/Self-Isolating

Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing. Individuals are now not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, if the following apply:

- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months;
- they are fully vaccinated;
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial;
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

Therefore, if your child is contacted as a close-contact, they or you as their parent/carer will be informed by NHS Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test but should continue to attend school.



Lighthouse School, Leeds

Arthington House, Hospital Lane, Leeds LS16 6QB

☎: 0113 4570605 Email: admin@lighthouseschool.co.uk

www.lighthouseschool.co.uk

We strongly suggest if your child tests positive for COVID 19, that you inform school immediately by phoning the main school number or emailing admin@lighthouseschool.co.uk.

We understand it will be difficult for some students to communicate who their close contacts have been and if this is the case please tell NHS test and trace this and request they contact school directly.



Control Measures in School

- We will be continuing to emphasise the importance of good hygiene for everyone in school. e.g. Hand washing, Catch it, Kill it, Bin it and Use it, Wipe it processes;
- We will continue with the increased cleaning regimes in school;
- All rooms will be well ventilated where possible (please ensure that your child/ren bring jumpers/cardigans into school);

Testing

Your child is invited to participate in 2 **nasal** lateral flow tests (spaced 3 – 5 days apart) on their return to school. The first tests for Year 7s will be on Friday 3rd September. All students with consent can test themselves on Monday 6th September in School. Parent/carers were sent an electronic form before the holidays to give parental consent for these tests. If you have not already given consent, and would like to do so, please email admin@lighthouseschool.co.uk.

Staff will continue to have lateral flow tests twice a week. Students and their families are encouraged to also do this twice a week. If you require lateral flow tests at home, you can collect at your local pharmacy or order online.

If your child develops COVID symptoms, they will be sent home and requested to take a PCR test and follow public health advice.

Attendance

School attendance is mandatory for all students of compulsory school age. Where a student is required to self-isolate or quarantine because of COVID, they will be recorded appropriately with the relevant code. As not all people with COVID have symptoms, where appropriate, students will be supported with remote education.

Educational Visits/Extra-Curricular Opportunities/Sport/Singing

We will be looking to resume all of these opportunities for the students and further details will follow as we progress into the autumn term.

Alterations to Arrangements



Lighthouse School, Leeds

Arthington House, Hospital Lane, Leeds LS16 6QB

☎: 0113 4570605 Email: admin@lighthouseschool.co.uk

www.lighthouseschool.co.uk

We have been advised to be aware that the guidance may change if the infection rates do rise in our area, and we have contingency plans set out for this. As mentioned earlier in the letter, we may adjust our plans based on the health and safety risk assessment that is due late next week. If we have a number of positive cases, then it may well be necessary to bring back certain measures. On a more positive view, we are hoping that we can lift the remaining restrictions sooner rather than later.



Thank you for your patience, understanding and time to read through all of this information.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Sullivan
Principal



Lighthouse School, Leeds

Arthington House, Hospital Lane, Leeds LS16 6QB

☎: 0113 4570605 Email: admin@lighthouseschool.co.uk

www.lighthouseschool.co.uk