

**Lucan Educate Together N.S.**

**Return to School Plan**

Our staff are really look forward to seeing all the children next week. A lot of work has been going on behind the scenes in preparation for the return to school. In these unprecedented times we understand that there may be some anxiety and confusion about how the return to school will take place next week.

Below is a set of FAQs’ which will answer most of your questions. At all times, when plans and decisions have been made, we have given consideration to **all** members of our school community – children and their families, teaching staff, SNA’s and ancillary staff.

We understand that some of the plans in place will be inconvenient for some families, however we feel that the plans set out below will ensure the safety of all members of our school community. We would ask for your patience and understanding in these challenging times.

We would encourage as many children as possible to walk, cycle and scooter to school, there are additional bike racks available at the school.

Please try, where possible, to arrive at the correct time and follow the signs on the ground to ensure social distance is maintained accessing and departing the school grounds.

**Following are details of how to enter and exit the school grounds and classes. Please note Gate A is the gate beside the flag poles / garden and Gate B is the gate beside the astro-turf.**

1. **Will all children start school at 8.50am?** *Please find below a comprehensive list of drop-off / collection times for each class. Please ensure you and your children follow the instructions at the gate with regard to entering / exiting the yard. See details attached.*
2. **Are parents allowed in the yard in the morning for drop-off?** *Gates will be clearly marked, please ensure your child / children enters through the correct gate. All children from 2nd class – 6th class should be left at the gates and make their way to their classes at the designated time. There will be staff present in the yard to assist. All children from junior infants to 1st class can be accompanied by a parent to their external classroom door at their designated time. Social distancing should be maintained at all times. We would encourage all adults to leave the school yard promptly after drop-off and collection.*
3. **Will children be lining up in the yard?** *No children will not be lining up in the yard, see above.*
4. **I have children due to start school at different times?** *We understand that the staggered start / finish times are not convenient, however they are necessary. Children with two different start times cannot be dropped / collected at the same time. If necessary, parents can move to the yard after the first drop and await the second drop, socially distancing. The same applies at collection time.*

**The following are the arrival and departure times for all classes:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Arrival Time** | **Classes** | **Departure Time** |
| 8.50am | 1st Class (Martina’s) | 2.30pm |
|  | 2nd Class |  |
|  | 4th Class |  |
|  | 6th Class |  |
|  |  |  |
| 9.00am | 3rd Class | 2.40pm |
|  | 5th Class |  |
|  | 1st Class (Andrea’s) |  |
|  | Outreach Classes |  |
|  |  |  |
| 9.10am | Senior Infants | 1.50pm |
|  |  |  |
| Junior Infants |  |  |
| September 1 – 4 | 9.30am – 11.15am |  |
| September 7 – 11 | 9.15am – 12pm |  |
| September 14 – 18 | 9.15am – 12pm |  |
|  |  |  |

**From September 21st all junior infants will be in for a full day from 9.10am – 1.50pm.**

**Students who are joining the school from senior infants to 6th class are asked to come to school on Monday 31st August at 9.30am. They will be met by members of staff and the children will be escorted to their classrooms.**

1. **Should my child use a particular gate / door to enter and exit school?** *Yes your child / children should use the gates and doors to enter and exit the school as set out below. Please ensure that you and your child are familiar with which gate and door they should be using.*

**Gate A is the gate beside the flag poles / garden and Gate B is the gate beside the astro-turf**:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Arrival Time – 8.50am** | **Gate Entrance** | **Door Entrance** |
| 1st class (Martina) | B | 1st class door at front |
| 2nd classes | A | Back yard |
| 4th classes | B | Follow path to left of Reception and enter at back |
| 6th classes | A | Side door to right of Reception |
| **Please leave by the same gate as you entered** | | |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Arrival Time – 9.00am** | **Gate Entrance** | **Door Entrance** |
| 1st class (Andrea) | B | 1st class door at front |
| 3rd classes | B | Back yard |
| 5th classes | A | Side door to right of Reception |
| Outreach | A | Class door on right hand side of school |
| **Please leave by the same gate as you entered** | | |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Arrival Time – 9.10am** | **Gate Entrance** | **Door Entrance** |
| Helen’s S.I. | B | Class door on left hand side of school |
| Anne Marie’s S.I. | A | Class door in corner off back yard |
|  |  |  |
| From 1st September to 18th September junior infants should come to school through Gate A, and continue in a one way direction, dropping their child and exiting through Gate B. Please maintain social distancing at all times. | | |
| From September 21st |  |  |
| Fiona’s J.I. | B | 2nd class door on left hand side of school |
| Yvonne’s J.I. | A | Class door off back yard nearest double doors |

1. ***Are parents allowed in the yard in the afternoon for collection?*** *All children from 2nd class – 6th class should be met outside the grounds of the school at a pre-arranged point. For children from junior infants to 1st class, please see below:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Class** | **Meeting Point** |
| Fiona’s J.I. | Enter through Gate B, approach the classroom from the front yard and wait outside the classroom door, socially distancing. Exit through Gate B. |
| Yvonne’s J.I. | Enter through Gate A, please approach the classroom via the back yard and wait outside the classroom door, socially distancing. Exit through Gate A. |
| Helen’s S.I. | Enter through Gate B, please approach the classroom from the front yard and wait outside the door, socially distancing. Exit through Gate B. |
| Anne Marie’s S.I. | Enter through Gate A, please approach the classroom via the back yard and wait outside the door, socially distancing. Exit through Gate A. |
| 1st Class | Enter through Gate B, please wait in 1st class yard, but not outside the classroom doors, socially distancing. Exit through Gate B. |

1. **My children will be dropped to / collected from school by a childminder or creche, what do they need to know?** *Please provide your childminder or creche with all relevant information regarding drop-off / collection times as pertaining to your child / children.*
2. **Will the classroom layout be different?** *We have arranged all the classrooms to support social distancing. Children will be sitting in “pods” of 4. Pods will be at least 1m apart.*
3. **Will children be going on yard?** *Children will be going on yard at break and lunchtime, however they will only be mixing with their class.*
4. **Are there hand sanitizers in the school?** *There are hand sanitizers at the entrance to the school and in all classrooms and at other relevant points around the school. There will be soap available in the classroom toilets and at the classroom sinks and warm water is available there too. Children from 3rd – 6th class are being asked to bring a small towel / face cloth in a plastic bag for drying hands.*
5. **My child is going into junior / senior infants, do they need a school bag?** *Junior infants and senior infants need only a lunch bag, they do not need a school bag. School books can be brought to school on the first day in a plastic bag.*
6. **Are there any changes to lunchtime arrangements?** *Children should have a washable lunchbox that they can open and close themselves. Children should also have a resealable drink that they can open and close themselves. There will be staggered break times to allow for social distancing.*

**Please note that there are a number of children in our school with allergies and as such the school is NUT FREE ZONE. Please ensure that no nuts or foods containing nuts are brought to school, for example nuts, cereal bars, granola bars, Friday teats, peanut butter or other nut butter etc. It is essential that we all take responsibility in this matter.**

1. **Are there any considerations regarding schoolbooks or pencil cases?** *We ask that all school books are covered with a plastic cover that can be cleaned regularly. Children from senior infants to 6th class will need to bring a pencil case. Senior infants will need a pencil, rubber, coloured pencils and a parer. We also ask that children have pencil cases that can be cleaned regularly, i.e. no furry, cloth or sequin pencil cases. Children should only use items from their own pencil case and if possible leave it in school and have relevant supplies at home.*
2. **Will there be assemblies taking place?** *There are no plans to have assemblies in the school hall before the mid term break in October. This will be reviewed. However, we hope to use the school technology for internal school assemblies and sharing of information.*
3. **Will after school activities take place?** There are no plans to have after school activities in the school before the mid term break in October. This will be reviewed.

**All of the above is subject to review.**

**Some examples of the steps that we have taken in the school grounds and building.**









