



13 May 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to update you on the changes to school policy due to the move to step 3 of the government roadmap out of lockdown, and an update to guidance from the Department of Education (DfE). These changes will take effect from Monday 17th May.

Testing

The school continues to promote and engage with asymptomatic testing. Twice weekly LFD home testing is to remain in place. PCR confirmation is required upon a positive LFD result with self-isolation in place until a negative PCR result is confirmed. Whilst testing remains voluntary, regular testing remains key to early detection, so please do continue to support the testing programme, notifying results to both test and trace and the school results portal.

Face Coverings

From Monday 17th May there will be no requirement for pupils to wear a face covering within the classroom or within communal areas. Year 7 and above must continue to wear a face covering on school transport unless they have notified an exemption to the school. Staff will continue to wear face coverings within communal areas unless an exemption applies. The wearing of face covering outside of this guidance is at the discretion of the individual.

Social Distancing

Social distancing remains, with the emphasis on keeping a two metre distance where possible; this is especially relevant with adult to adult and adult to child distancing. Bubble grouping and site zoning remains unchanged and assemblies continue to take place in bubble groups only.

Systems of Control

The school will continue to regularly review and update our Covid risk assessment and procedures in line with government guidance. School specific systems of control remain in place i.e. sanitisation of equipment between bubble groups, minimising staff grouping, handwashing and increased ventilation.

School Excursions/Educational Visits

Day visits within bubble groups of no more than 30 may go ahead. Parents, carers or volunteers should not accompany groups outside of school staffing. Where there is more than one bubble group, pupils should remain distanced. Overnight stays restrict sleeping to a maximum of 6 in each sleeping area and must be within the same bubble group. There are no international visits allowed at present.

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Transitional and Taster Days

Transitional and taster days may go ahead and there will be specific risk assessments in place that align with the school system of controls, remaining within stage 3 guidance. Please contact the admissions department for a pre-visit Covid assessment form.

Music, Dance and Drama

Risk mitigation is to remain in place. Practice sessions will be outside where possible and social distancing remains in place indoors in line with the government performing arts guidance.

Sport

Physical Education remains in bubble groups within the curriculum. Sporting activities and wrap-around care groups may mix bubbles up to 15 pupils per session; where it is not practical to remain in bubble groups, all other school systems of controls must be in place. Fixtures are now taking place, with specific match risk assessments adhered to. Sadly, parents are not permitted to attend school fixtures. We, of course, hope to see this change in the coming weeks, but the DfE currently advises against spectator attendance.

Very many thanks for your continued cooperation as we adjust to another set of guidelines. We are getting there slowly! Please do continue to email coronaupdate@langleyschool.co.uk with any questions or updates to your Covid circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Perriss". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Jon Perriss
Headmaster