

# Lady Margaret Primary School

Lady Margaret Road, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 2NH

Tel: 020 8566 6486 Fax: 020 8566 6713

Email: [office@ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk](mailto:office@ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk) Web: [www.ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk](http://www.ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk)

Head teacher: Mrs H Rai MA NPQH NPQEL Chair of Governors: Mr S Prebble

Deputy Head teacher: Miss L Simpson Deputy Head teacher: Miss P Bal

School Business Manager: Mrs A Hancock



Great Learning experiences and Motivation leads to Progress and Success

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year and I hope you had a lovely time over the school holiday. It was a pleasure to welcome your children back into school yesterday. I was delighted to see so many children returning, proudly, with home learning projects. The home learning exhibition of work scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> January will now not be open to parents but we will make a film for you to see the work which will be on the website.

Teaching staff have prepared for what will be a busy full term ahead. I apologise as you may not have been able to access the curriculum overviews over the holiday as there was an issue with the school website but this has now been resolved.

We are focused upon the progress children have made and are likely to make by the end of the summer term. Despite disruptions, our teachers' focus is to ensure that children seize all the opportunities and support available to them. Where teachers are concerned that individual children may need extra support or supervision, they will contact you. Given all that has happened since March 2020, it is vital that we collectively focus upon our children's well-being not just in emotional and physical terms, but academically too. **If your child is invited to attend a booster session, please ensure they do so every week.**

In general terms, the school will continue the same practices as last term and with the same timings. You will be aware that we may face extreme difficulties in relation to staff not being able to be at work because of COVID-19. We are taking all measures in school to reduce the risk of staff being infected but there is a likelihood, given issues in other areas of the public sector, that we will be affected in one way or another. We will work hard to keep children in school unless it becomes unsafe to do so or we are advised otherwise.

## Contacting the school

For this half term I request that parents consider where else information can be obtained before contacting the school. Our website holds a substantial amount of curriculum information. If you need to contact the school office please email or telephone rather than trying to come into school.

Educational visitors will be permitted on site but will do a LFT before entering the building. Parents are **not permitted** into the building at this time unless requested to do so by a member of staff. If you are asked to come into school for a meeting, you will be asked to do a LFT.

## **Organisation for reducing the risk of transmission**

We will be placing pupils into the following bubbles:

1. Year 6
2. Years 4 and 5
3. Years 2 and 3
4. Years 1 and Reception
5. Nursery

Most of the time the children in each year group will be a bubble but they will mix with the other year group in their bubble at lunchtimes, for assemblies and in the playground. If there is a shortage of staff, children within bubbles may be grouped together. There will be some mixing beyond the identified bubbles in the late room and in the daily after school club but we will keep children separate as much as possible.

Classrooms will be well ventilated so please ensure your child wears an extra layer of clothing as classrooms will be colder than usual.

If a child within the bubble has Covid the parents of all children within that bubble will be notified. However, unless your child tests positive on a LFT or has symptoms, you are expected to send them into school. If more than 10% of the bubble have Covid we will seek advice from Public Health which may lead to a partial or full closure. In this event, teaching will take place remotely. Vulnerable pupils and key worker's children will still be able to attend school.

We request that you do regular LFTs on your child. If your child tests positive on an LFT, please inform the school office. If your child has no symptoms, you can request work to be sent home.

Your child should not bring in equipment from home such as pencil cases, nor do they need to wear a mask. If they do wear a mask, they may be asked to remove it by a member of staff if it is interrupting their learning, such as in phonics.

Swimming for Y4 will continue.

Children will be asked to wash their hands when entering the classroom and will sanitise them throughout the day.

## **Procedure if your child displays symptoms**

Please see attached the flow chart for action but put simply, if your child shows symptoms of Covid, you will be telephoned. If your child appears well enough to be in school, you will be asked for verbal permission for us to administer a LFT in school. If your child tests negative and feels well enough to be in school, he/she will return to class. If he/she tests positive, he/she will be isolated until you collect them.

**As this letter contains a great deal of information, below I have included frequently asked questions with answers which may be helpful:**

### **Will children be taught remotely at home?**

No, only as a very last resort. We are keen that children attend school whilst it is considered safe to do so.

### **I am worried about how quickly Omicron spreads. Can I keep my child at home?**

No. This will be an unauthorised absence and unless there are certified medical reasons, your child is legally required to attend school.

# Lady Margaret Primary School

Lady Margaret Road, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 2NH

**Tel:** 020 8566 6486 **Fax:** 020 8566 6713

**Email:** office@ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk **Web:** www.ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk

**Head teacher:** Mrs H Rai MA NPQH NPQEL **Chair of Governors:** Mr S Prebble

**Deputy Head teacher:** Miss L Simpson **Deputy Head teacher:** Miss P Bal

**School Business Manager:** Mrs A Hancock



## Can my child wear a face mask in school and lessons like older children are?

No. Face mask wearing only applies to secondary / high schools and DFE (Department for Education) and Public Health guidance does not support this for primary schools.

## Somebody in our home has COVID. Should I keep my child at home?

No, unless they have symptoms – headaches, flu, coughing, temperature, vomiting. In this case, do a lateral flow test and if positive, book a PCR test.

If someone in your home has COVID but your child **does not have symptoms**, please do a daily lateral flow test.

## Does my child have to isolate for 10 days if they have tested positive?

Please carefully read this advice from the Department for Education:

*Since Wednesday 22 December, the **10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days** in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.*

*Individuals may now take LFD (lateral flow device) tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive **two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days** of self-isolation. **The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8.***

## Will there be a staggered start and end to the day?

No. We plan to start and finish as we did last term.

## Will there be ventilation in the school?

Yes. Windows and doors will be opened frequently, so **children should wear an extra layer under their uniforms.**

## We live with a clinically vulnerable person. Will you tell us if my child has been sitting with a child who has tested positive?

Yes, we will now inform your child has come into close contact with someone who has tested positive

## What if too many staff are sick?

We will respond in a way that ensures safety. The government guidance is that we could mix classes or use non-teaching staff. We will make decisions on a case by case, day by day basis and only use remote learning as a last resort.

As I mentioned before the break, please consider what arrangements might be needed at home if remote learning is necessary.

To help with your own planning, parent consultation meetings will be held via video again this term other than in exceptional circumstances.

#### **Other reminders**

- Please follow the one-way system for entering and exiting the site at the end of the day
- Please wear a mask, unless you are exempt, as you are likely to be close to others while exiting the site
- We had cases of children arriving at school last term either with a temperature or having vomited the evening before. These children had to remain in quarantine from registration until they were collected, and, in many cases, this was an uncomfortable and unnecessary experience for them. Children must not attend school with a high temperature and those who have vomited or had diarrhoea must not attend school for 48 hours from the last episode.
- Please collect your children on time
- Please continue to send your child to school in PE kit on the day their class has PE

Thank you for your patience in reading this information. If you need anything translated, please let us know.

I recognise that this is a difficult time for us all, and some families will be facing significant hardship. If there is anything we can do to support your children further, please contact your child's teacher or a member of the senior team.

We look forward to a positive and productive term, despite what may come our way.

With best wishes,



Helen Rai  
Headteacher

# Lady Margaret Primary School

Lady Margaret Road, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 2NH

Tel: 020 8566 6486 Fax: 020 8566 6713

Email: office@ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk Web: www.ladymargaret.ealing.sch.uk

Head teacher: Mrs H Rai MA NPQH NPQEL Chair of Governors: Mr S Prebble

Deputy Head teacher: Miss L Simpson Deputy Head teacher: Miss P Bal

School Business Manager: Mrs A Hancock



## Suspected COVID case flowchart

