



.....putting Every Child Matters into Action

South Gloucestershire Council
Longwell Green Primary School
Ellacombe Road, Longwell Green, Bristol, BS30 9BA
www.longwellgreenprimaryschool.co.uk
enquiries@longwellgreenprimaryschool.co.uk
Tel: 01454 866460

Headteacher: Mr D Brown

Re: next year's teachers, next year's classrooms, starting information for September.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child's next teacher

In a usual year, on Wednesday this week, your child/ren would have spent time with their new teacher, in their new class setting. This has not been able to happen for both pupils that are in school (as we cannot break a bubble) or out of school.

We wanted to get information out to you as parents quickly. This is of course an exciting time, but with still almost 3 weeks to go, you can appreciate why we will not be labouring the changes too much with the children. We all still have a lot to do in those weeks and we want them to make the most of their current year group and not thinking about their next class (as well as still engaging with homelearning rather than thinking that the year is over). Please note that the classes will not be mixed this year; your child will be with the same children as they have been this year prior to lockdown.

Below is the list of the teachers and classrooms for the academic year 2020 - 2021. Staff will be making contact with their new class very soon and it is hoped that sharing this information will go some way to calming inevitable nerves of 'new' and help your child have a mental image of their new class and teacher.

Staff classes 2020 21

Table with 5 columns: Class, September 2020 Teacher/s & Class, Receiving which class? (old class/teacher), September 2020 Teacher/s & Class, Receiving which class? (old class/teacher). Rows include Reception, Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Staff leavers and joiners

This year we are saying goodbye to Lizzie Duparcq who worked in Reception Squirrels this year as a maternity cover for Abbee Mclenaghan who is returning part time in September. She has been a great asset to the school and we'll all miss her, and I know you join us in thanking her and wishing her well.

We are also saying goodbye to Sarah Bishop, who was maternity cover for Lauren Bollom in Year 1. Sarah became pregnant herself this year and so has been one of our shielding staff members! We thank her for all she has done for her class and working from home and wish her and her growing family all the best!

Both of the above are excellent staff members and great people. They are well-liked by everyone and just think of the combined number of children that they have supported over their time at Longwell! We wish them all the very best of luck and know they will go on to do well in their futures.

Many of you already know that Lucy Mason is also pregnant with her first child near the end of term 1. As such, you can see the changing of staff to support this. We wish her and her expanding family well also.





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We are pleased to welcome Alice Jones who joins us as an experienced Reception teacher. She will be working alongside Abbee Mclenaghan teaching our soon to be new Year Reception in September.

We are also pleased to announce that Lauren Raggett, an experienced and well regarded Year 1 teacher, will be joining us to work in year one.

Both are great staff, superb teachers with experience in the years they will be working, with glowing references and I know they will be to be assets to the school.

Things to know for the first day back.

It might seem a long time until we start back in September, but I wanted to make sure that everyone is aware of some of the back to school things to think about on the first day back. You all know (letter sent out earlier this year) that we will **start back on Tuesday September 1st. Not Monday!** We made the decision not to have any INSET days at the start of the year to get pupils back as soon as we can. We will send you more details soon.

The **first INSET day is on Friday 23rd October** For more information please see <https://www.longwellgreenprimaryschool.co.uk/term-dates/>

The first day after any holiday is especially busy and the return in September is probably one of the busiest mornings of the year for us all, especially in the office. We anticipate it being even more so in this coming September. I suggest that unless it is urgent, you find another way to communicate, perhaps a letter either to the office or the class teacher (via dojo). This will enable the office staff to deal with those issues that are really urgent. Of course, we are more than happy to speak with you, but this is just to alert you of the fact that despite staff's best efforts, the first day back in September will bring a very long queue at the office hatch!

Please make sure your child has all of the items they might need, such as PE kits, water bottles, etc for the first day as they won't know their timetables at this point and may need them.

Dinners.

Please remember that if your child is moving from year 2 into year 3, they will no longer be eligible for the Universal Free School Meals and you will need to buy any hot meals that you wish to have. If you believe you may be eligible for Pupil Premium, you will also be able to claim free lunches from Year 3 onward. Please see <https://www.longwellgreenprimaryschool.co.uk/pupil-premium/> for more information. Additionally, fruit is only provided for free for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 but can be purchased from the kitchen during first break at a cost of: apples (30p) toast or carrots (20p.)

Pick up and drop off.

It is very daunting to make their way through a crowd of adults and for the new Reception class it is an especially scary time. We appreciate that you may wish to say goodbye to your children, however please make sure that all children are able to get into school by standing in a way that does not block the gates or the walk to the gates for the children.

School staff are on duty from 8.45 with the start of school being at 9.00.

To address the very busy time at the green gates in the mornings, from September we are trialling a new way for pupils to enter the building. We anticipate some nerves from children after such a long time away from school and we feel that this will help. This new structure should allow a calm walk into the building and therefore a happy start to the day for everyone.

Reception

After induction, Reception children will walk with you, their adult, through the green gates and onto the playground. The class teacher will be waiting at the EYFS doors to receive your child. At the end of the day, they will be dismissed from their classroom one at a time to their parent or carer, through the same doors (we will stagger this during Covid times if we need to).

Year 1 and 2





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From September, Year 1 and 2 children will use the ramp at the side of the hall for their entrance point. The car park gates will be closed and you should use the small gate or main gate to access the ramp.

For **Year 1 children** as our current reception will soon become, they will be expected to say goodbye at the bottom of the ramp and make their way to their classroom in the morning. We are aware that this is something that will need home input as well as school to ensure they are ready to do this and we hope you will discuss this with your child in terms of them being more grown up and how proud we all are to see them achieve this and please see below to see how this process develops as they move through school. Many have been navigating their own way to the classroom before lockdown anyway!

Please ensure not to congregate in the car park as at 9.00 or a little after this time, we may need to use it again (for example for deliveries). Thank you.

At the end of the day, **Year 1 and 2 children** will be dismissed one at a time to their parents from the Year 1/2 door at the bottom of the playground.

Year 3 and 4

Year 3 and 4 children come through the green gates in the morning and make their own way to their classroom's external doors via the playground, (usually after saying hello to staff on the gates!) and are greeted in their classroom by their teacher.

Year 3 children are now in the *juniors* and of course we further support their independent development. At the end of the day, the pupils will be dismissed from their classroom doors that lead onto the playground. Parents usually wait outside the classrooms on the tarmacked area at the end of the day. At the start of the year, the class teachers will come out with the class and be there to emotionally and literally support the children as they acclimatise into finding their own adult. Work will be done in class to explain the process to the children, how to find their adult, what to do if they are worried or if they cannot find their parent and so on. Of course, the class teacher will be watching, but there is an increased onus on the pupil to responsibly find their pick up person. This leads them to the following years as described below.

In the afternoon, **Year 4 to 6** pupils are dismissed from their classrooms and will make their own way to their pick up adults / or walk home. Adults are still on hand to support this, especially at the start of the year but most children do this independently anyway.

Year 5 and 6

Year 5 and 6 similarly leave their adults at the green gates in the mornings and walk into the building through the Upper Key Stage 2 doors.

In the afternoon as stated above, **Year 5 to 6** pupils are dismissed from their classrooms and will make their own way to their pick up adults / or walk home. Adults are still on hand to support this, especially at the start of the year but most children do this independently anyway.

Other Information

In September, each class teacher will send out a letter detailing the topics being covered that term along with more specific information about timings for activities such as PE slots and swimming if that is applicable to your child.

If you have any further questions, please ask at the office or your current class teacher who will help. For now, we wish your child/ren a happy final few weeks in their current classes be that in school or at home and wish you all a sun filled, enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely,

All of the staff at Longwell Green Primary School.

