

28th August 2020

Dear Squirrel's and Badger's Parents and Carers,

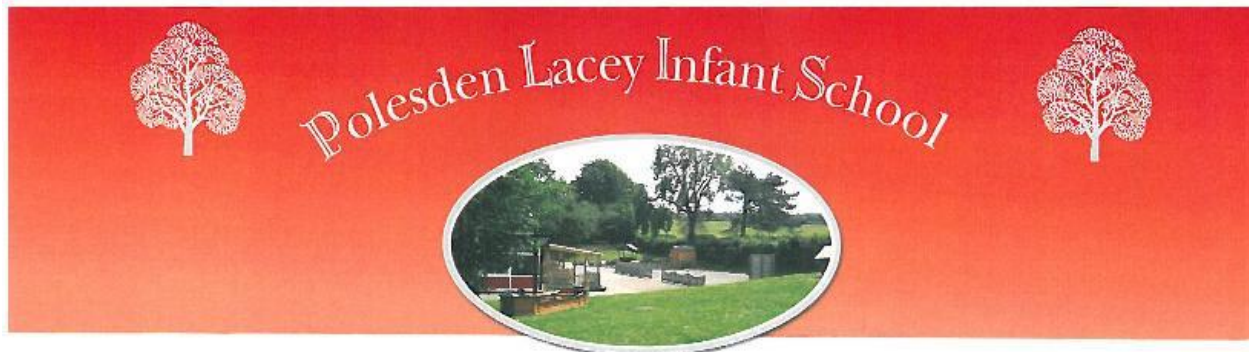
I hope that you have all had a fabulous summer and that the children are excited to be coming back to school next week, we are definitely looking forward to seeing them all.

In this letter I have included details of what school will be like when the children return, the things that we be the same as always and the things which will be different. For parents of children starting in Rabbit's class I will be writing to you separately next week, prior to the home visits.

Staffing

Class/Area of school	Teachers/Staff	Support Staff
Rabbits	Mrs. Binding Mrs. Leggatt	Mrs. Parry Mrs. Trussler Mrs. Bryan (Thursday and Friday) Mrs. Secker (Forest School and Friday)
Squirrels	Mrs. Mathews	Mrs. Bryan Mrs. West Miss. Aylett Mrs. Cummings Mrs. Secker (Forest School)
Badgers	Mrs. Quinn Mrs. Leggatt	Mrs. Secker Miss Aylett
Office	Mrs. Scott Mrs. Cummings	
Caretaker	Mr. Gregory	
Headteacher	Ms. Mole	
Deputy Headteacher and SENCo	Mrs. Binding	

Head Teacher: Ms Rebecca Mole



School starts for both Year 1 (the new Squirrels) and Year 2 (the new Badgers) on Wednesday 2nd September. Although nearly back to normal, things will not quite be back to the way they were prior to lockdown, there will be some changes in order that we can follow the Government guidelines to ensure the safety of the children and staff. The children will be back with their whole class whilst continuing to follow positive hygiene routines and appropriate social distancing. Initially we will be operating two bubbles - a Year 1 and Year 2 bubble and a Reception bubble. We will be continuing with a staggered drop off and collection to reduce congestion and minimise adult contact. The timings will be:

Class	Drop off at school	Collection at the end of the school day
Year 2 (Badgers)	8.45am	2.50pm
Year 1 (Squirrels)	8.55am	3.00pm
Reception (Rabbits)	9.05am	2.40pm

When you bring/collect your child please line up by the cones at the allotted time and follow the one-way system around the playground and then out following the arrows on the ground.

The staff have been busy in school getting the classrooms set up and below you will see pictures of Squirrel’s classroom and Badger’s classroom. They have been set up following Government guidance, although both rooms look different as they will initially be learning in slightly different ways. Mrs. Mathews will be ensuring a smooth transition from Reception into Year 1 by offering a setup similar to that of Rabbit’s classroom when the children first return to school, whereas Badger class will each have their allocated table as they did when they came back to school in June.



Squirrel classroom



Badger classroom

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Social distancing

The scientific information published by the DfE states, ‘We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff.’ Although we are putting measures in place to socially distance pupils, we are realistic that this is virtually impossible with children of this age. They will be playing with others in their own bubble and the staff will be there to look after them. Our focus will therefore continue to be on hygiene – washing hands, sneezing into a tissue or the crook of our elbows, not touching our faces with our hands, limited sharing of resources and frequent cleaning of the spaces that the children and adults use in combination with limiting the contact with others through the bubbles.

The DfE have advised that schools should work through the hierarchy of measures set below when social distancing is not feasible.

<p>Avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms</p>	<p>We have a system in place where any pupils exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms will be taken to a separate room and their parents will be required to immediately come and collect them. A first aider will remain with them but will be required to wear, a mask, an apron and gloves.</p> <p>The child who is unwell will need to be taken to have a Covid 19 test by their parents, and their whole household will need to self-isolate until the result is received. All other members of staff and pupils within the unwell child’s ‘bubble’ will continue as normal (attending school and not isolating) until the test result is received. Where the child or staff member tests negative, they will return to school.</p> <p>Where the child or staff member tests positive, the school will contact the South East Health Protection Team who will carry out a risk assessment to decide what the next steps should be.</p>
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Polesden Lacey Infant School



	Anyone, pupil or member of staff, who is in a household where someone displays symptoms of Covid – 19 must self-isolate for 14 days unless the person with symptoms returns a negative test for Covid-19. In this case the pupil or member of staff can return to school.
Frequent handwashing and good respiratory hygiene practices	We will continue to ensure that pupils wash their hands on arrival, before they eat their fruit snack (brought from home), before lunch, after going to the toilet and before going home. The children will be reminded how to sneeze or cough into a tissue or their sleeve. Please can you remind the children how to wash their hands correctly. Here is a link to the NHS video. https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/
Regular cleaning of settings	Daily cleaning continues to be in place, with an increase of cleaning frequently touched areas throughout the day.
Minimising contact and mixing	Staggered arrival times and playtimes/lunchtimes within the two bubbles means we can minimise the spread of germs.

It is still important to reduce contact between people as much as possible, and we can achieve that and reduce transmission risk by ensuring children, young people and staff where possible, only mix in a small, consistent group and that small group stays away from other people and groups. We have put detailed plans in place to ensure that this happens within school and ask that you support this by continuing to follow the Government guidelines on social distancing when the children are not in school. You must also follow the Track and Trace guidance announced by the Government on 27th May and the current Government rules on self-isolating for 14 days when returning from specified countries.

Below are links to Government publications that we have used in preparing to reopen the school that you may wish to read.

Head Teacher: Ms Rebecca Mole



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

Playtimes

To ensure all children have access to time outside, we are operating a staggered playtime system, which will allow all children within their bubble to play outside.

This will not look very different to normal playtime as Year 1 and Year 2 are operating as one bubble. We will however have specific equipment for Year 1 and 2 and different equipment for Reception as well as continued cleaning of the climbing equipment between bubbles.

As the weather will hopefully remain warm please can you remember to send your child in with their named sun hat and sun cream applied, as Staff members will be unable to apply sun cream in order to adhere to social distancing guidelines and our Sun Safety Policy. We may also have wet and chilly days so don't forget to check the forecast and send your child in with the appropriate named outdoor clothes!

Resources

Please can children in Year 1 and Year 2 bring into school a named pencil case, containing a ruler, pencil crayons and writing pencils. If you would like to include felt tip pens that would be absolutely fine. (These should remain in school for your child to keep in their tray and use on a daily basis.)

They will also be required to bring their own named plastic water bottle to and from home daily. Please fill with fresh water from home daily. We expect the Fruit Scheme to re-start on Wednesday 9th September so you will no longer need to send in a piece of fruit to eat in the morning from this date but you are more than welcome to send some fruit in with your child on the days prior to this.

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The teachers will be giving out reading books for your child to take home weekly in their red Polesden Lacey Infant School book-bag. These will be given out on a Monday afternoon and collected on a Friday morning. This will allow 72 hours between being used by one child at home and another child using them.

School Uniform

When we return to school next week children should be wearing their school uniform, including school shoes.

School Lunches

Our catering contractors will be providing hot school lunches from September and the children will be eating these in the hall with their class and bubble. The dining tables and chairs will be cleaned using antibacterial cleaning products between the Reception bubble and the Year 1 and Year 2 bubble.

If you have any questions before the start of term, on Wednesday 2nd September, please do not hesitate to contact us via email office@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all next week.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rebecca Mole'.

Ms Rebecca Mole,

Headteacher

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