



# Larwood Academy Trust

**Executive Headteacher:** Mr Sean Trimble | B.Ed (Hons) MA NPQH |

**Chair of Trustees:** Cllr Sandra Barr | B.Sc (Hons) Dip.soc.pol |

WEBB RISE, STEVENAGE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SG1 5QU

**Email:** admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk **Telephone:** 01438 236333

**Website:** www.larwood.herts.sch.uk **Facsimile:** 01438 236363



## Larwood School

**Deputy Headteacher:** Mr Pierre Van Der Merwe | BA, NPQH |

## Brandles School

**Headteacher:** Mr David Pearce | BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH |

Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the summer term! I hope that you managed to enjoy the Easter break as best you could with the various restrictions still in place.

Pupils have returned and made a fantastic start to the term. The summer term always represents a number of differences for us and our approach to learning and this year will be the same but different! Please let me explain below:

- We always try and use outdoor spaces as much as possible with the better weather that we tend to see in this term. This will take place but even more so than usual, to help keep potential Covid infection as low as possible.
- We would normally be preparing Year 6 pupils for SAT's tests. This will not take place, as it has been agreed that no schools across the country will use such tests this year, just like last year. Having had due discussion about the lack of SAT's testing over the last two years and how little it means for our pupils, we have chosen to not use these tests in future years. We will however, use a range of school based test that better demonstrate our pupil's development over the time that they have been with us. This would still include core skills such as literacy and numeracy but will also include other skills as well.
- Staff will continue to test themselves twice per week using Lateral Flow Tests for any Covid infections. I refer to Covid in greater detail later in this letter.
- As previously shared, we will now work really hard to hold a Sports Day for our pupils. We will need to consider the format of this and will keep you informed of details as we approach the event in July. It is always such a great day, with so many of our pupils unable (or not allowed) to access this type of event in their previous schools.
- A lot of work will take place with Year 6 pupils in connection to transition. Again, we will need to make some changes to the usual process. For example, it may well be that pupil visits take place after school hours to avoid any breaking of 'bubble's' with different groups. Staff at Larwood and Brandles have worked hard to review the associated processes and will try to put, as much in as possible that will help our pupils. Other Secondary Schools such as Hailey Hall and Batchwood have also be in contact and work is continuing to take place with them as well.

In relation to Covid 19, we have started the term with the same protocols as we ended. Social distancing, hand washing, 'bubbles,' etc. are all in still in place. Staff continue to wear masks. As per government advice, we will review these measures as the term progresses. By the start of the second

Registered office:

Larwood School, Webb Rise, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. SG1 5QU, UK. Company Number: 10359418



# Larwood Academy Trust

**Executive Headteacher:** Mr Sean Trimble | B.Ed (Hons) MA NPQH |

**Chair of Trustees:** Cllr Sandra Barr | B.Sc (Hons) Dip.soc.pol |

WEBB RISE, STEVENAGE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SG1 5QU

**Email:** admin@larwood.herts.sch.uk **Telephone:** 01438 236333

**Website:** www.larwood.herts.sch.uk **Facsimile:** 01438 236363



## Larwood School

**Deputy Headteacher:** Mr Pierre Van Der Merwe | BA, NPQH |

**Headteacher:** Mr David Pearce | BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH |

half of the term, the vast majority of our staff will have had their second Covid jab. This will be of great help for the remainder of this academic year.

Just as before, it remains essential that you do not send your child into school if they have any Covid symptoms. This helps contain any potential outbreak. Please also note that all adults are now able to access Lateral Flow Test kits in stores such as Tesco's, Sainsbury's and local Chemists. I would highly recommend that you do this and test twice per week for peace of mind.

Please note that I will write again during the next few weeks, to outline some structural changes that we are currently planning and getting ready for September.

Finally, please ensure that you continue to communicate with us about any issues that may have an effect on your child at school. Working together is a key strength that really helps us to support your children. Any information that may help us to understand changes in behaviour is always appreciated.

Many thanks

Yours sincerely

S D Trimble

Executive Headteacher

Registered office:

Larwood School, Webb Rise, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. SG1 5QU, UK. Company Number: 10359418