



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 |

14th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have deliberately not sent letters for a few weeks to allow us to settle back into some form of normality. I am pleased to say that we are getting there, however, with such dramatic changes that we have all experienced over the last 12 months this will take some time.

You may have already seen in the news that there are some changes to the **Covid rules** and regulations starting on Monday May 17th. The major one that seems to be grabbing most of the headlines is related to the removal of the need to use facemasks in educational settings. Please note that on Monday next week, staff will have the option to remove these and I am fairly confident that most will enjoy having that option and stopping using face masks altogether. The other covid-based protocols that we currently operate with will continue to run in exactly the same way. Therefore, the class based bubbles, different lunchtimes, hand washing and emphasis on keeping distance will stay with us until further notice. Most of us have now been vaccinated for the second time and we continue to do lateral flow testing twice per week in line with government guidelines.

Just as before, it is essential that if your child is unwell and may be suffering from covid like symptoms that you do not send them into school. If this is the case, please complete a test as soon as it is possible and follow the guidelines associated with such procedures. I will keep you informed of any further changes as they are given and as the rest of the term continues.

We are currently looking at our curriculum provision and some of the changes that we may make in association with this will be for after half term. For example, the use of locally based off site activities and how our lunch times will work. However, whatever we do in the future will be very much based along the lines of government guidance but also our ongoing assessment of risk in our area and for the particular needs of our pupils. Again, please accept my thanks for your previous and ongoing support with all of these matters.

At this stage of the year, we start to work with our **Year Six pupils on the subject of transition to secondary school**. We know this can be a challenge. However, based on our previous experiences, and utilising our fantastic staff alongside working closely with our secondary colleagues (particularly Brandles), we have a series of events and programmes that tend to really help most of our pupils. As you would expect this does consist of visits, getting to know certain individuals, and discussions with pupils already at the secondary schools our pupils may be going to. I know that we will all want this to go as positively as possible over the coming weeks and months so that your son or daughter can quickly settle into life at secondary school when the time does arrive. Please communicate with us if you have any further ideas or requests with this process but please also support us with delivering

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

Brandles School

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Pierre Van Der Merwe | BA, NPQH | **Headteacher:** Mr David Pearce | BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH |

this process as it makes such a huge difference to your child and the ability to settle down at their new school in September.

Please note that in the near future, I will be sending out a link to an online survey. I would really appreciate your support if you would take the time to complete this survey. It shouldn't take too long. We are currently going through the process of looking at some of the things we have done during the pandemic and whether or not we should continue to do those things in the same way as we move forward, hopefully without the pandemic and COVID-19 being part of daily life. Examples of this that are particularly pertinent for parents include how we operate parent's evenings and our educational healthcare plan reviews. We have our own views and ideas in relation to such matters but essentially, we need to have your views on this as well so that we proceed in a way that works for parents and carers. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the survey. If you would prefer a paper-based copy or simply a discussion about it over the phone please do contact us and I will arrange for this to take place.

Yours sincerely

S D Trimble

Executive Headteacher

Registered office:

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