



Gatten and Lake Primary School  
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Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **COVID school Guidance and Risk Assessment**

In light of Boris Johnson's announcement on Monday evening and the delay to the roadmap, our risk assessments will remain largely the same for the remainder of the academic year. Whilst we were planning for restrictions to lift, we of course cannot take any risks at this time.

It is really important we continue to remain extremely vigilant, safe and secure in the coming weeks to support the Nation in keeping as safe and healthy as possible.

Therefore, traditional summer events, that often take place in the summer term, will continue in school but we will not be able to invite audiences into school. This is the safest approach to take. This way the children can participate and enjoy the events – we will continue to update you about events via Class DoJo posts with information and photos as appropriate.

### **Transition Arrangements**

#### **Year 6 to Year 7**

Updates on transition for Y6 pupils moving to Y7 in September will be communicated to parents directly, however, any additional information we receive will be shared with you. Again, the changes are necessary to keep to the guidance in secondary schools. Schools are thinking creatively about how to facilitate transition for pupils joining their schools in September. If anyone has any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to let me know.

#### **In-school transition**

We will keep you updated about in-school transition – where we prepare children for the move to a new classroom with new staff, in many cases. This is most likely to take place a little later in the term through outside opportunities.

#### **Transition from pre-school to school**

Last year transition to school was extremely smooth, with both virtual and small outdoor visits as well as garden visits in September. A similar model will be followed this year and initial letters have now been sent to parents and carers following this most recent Government update.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming a new class of children to school in September. We can honestly say that we will endeavour to make this transition for these children as smooth as possible.

### **Staffing Academic Year 2021 – 2022**

Today, I have enclosed a staffing structure sheet on the final page of the newsletter, this will also be published on the school website. This details the staff who will be in each class next academic year. Please remember, when reading this information, much time and effort goes into these decisions, ensuring that staffing reflects the needs of the children, school and staff each and every year. The profile of the children within the cohort is considered carefully, alongside the staff's continuous professional development and any changes to roles. In the same way, that children having the same teacher for all 7 years of their primary journey would not be healthy for either pupils or teacher, similarly maintaining the same staff member in one year group each and every year would also not be healthy either. Staff must have the



opportunity and sometimes have the challenge of teaching the full Primary Age Range. Similarly, Teaching Assistants must all develop their skills and expertise across the school too.

We invest time and energy into upskilling our workforce to ensure they have up to date training, and the children experience a broad rich curriculum by skilled professionals for the best outcomes possible.

### **Walking, scooting and cycling to and from school**

Since half term we have had at least two separate incidents when we have been made aware that safety on the way home, has been compromised by children whilst getting themselves home from school. Our policy states in this case that any consent for the child walking home unaccompanied will be rescinded, until the parent /carer and school agree it is safe for this to happen again. Please can you reinforce with your child if they walk, scoot or cycle home or to a given location independently, they must do so safely and in accordance with their school interview. Many thanks in advance for ensuring the safety of your children. It is only children in; Y4, Y5 & Y6 that have this option. All other children must be collected from school.

### **Homework**

Many thanks for your family commitment to homework in the summer term. We have just 5 weeks remaining in school. We appreciate you have spent a large proportion of your time, this year, taking the role of teacher for your child and for that we are so grateful. Our internal school data suggests that where engagement was high, children have remained largely on track for Age Related Expectations.

We have kept all homework on Class DoJo, so the process of uploading and teacher marking has remained the same as remote learning, for ease of use for everyone. The advantages are more than keeping the system operational, it keeps everything in one place and generates a portfolio of online work for your child. Homework sheets can't get lost / go missing etc... children can refer back to prior learning easily with their parent/carers and their teacher.

Please do encourage your child to complete their homework each week, within the deadlines given. Thank you for your ongoing support. ☺

### **Statutory Assessments**

Each year there are specific statutory assessments that take place in schools:

- EYFS – Baseline and End of year Profile judgements
- Y1 Phonic screening check
- Y2 SATs
- Y4 Multiplication tables check
- Y6 SATs

Last and this summer the testing has not gone ahead due to lockdowns and breaks in education.

Last year the children missed this. Many children like the experience in Y6 particularly.

As a school, we will be completing these assessments internally as well as following the guidance on how these will be when they are statutory in the next year. By doing these assessments, the children will not be under pressure, but this is an opportunity to identify strengths and areas for development for the children along with trends across cohorts, to ensure appropriate curriculum teaching for the next academic year.

### **Financial changes**

During the pandemic and over this last lockdown I appreciate many family circumstances have changed, including financial. We are here to help you, where we can. This may mean that you are eligible for Free School Meals – which releases more funding and benefits to you as a family, with how we can use finances within school. <https://www.iow.gov.uk/Council/OtherServices/Free-School-Meals/Tasks>

Even if you do not qualify for Free School Meals funding initially, we do have other schemes that may be able to assist you. Please send us a message or catch us in the morning to see how we can help you. ☺



## **Leave of Absence from school**

Please remember any leave of absence from school, whether this is for a medical appointment, health need or holiday must be made known to the school, by telephone for immediate communication. However, this must ALWAYS be followed up with written evidence. Without written evidence, the absence cannot be authorised. Any authorised absence is at the discretion of the headteacher. If your child has an appointment please do bring an appointment card or letter to school to indicate the reason for absence. Any leave of absence request for holiday, recreation activity etc... must be made on a leave of absence application form, available from the office. Leave of absence requests, whilst largely unauthorised, cannot be denied. Honesty is the best policy at all times, as in most cases children are so excited to share their holiday or visit news they tell their friends or the teacher themselves and worry about not keeping a secret. Let's work together to ensure morals of honesty are maintained at all times. Thank you ☺

## **Online Safety**

A reminder again about online safety...

Does technology keep your child focused and quiet at home?

Does technology keep your child in their bedroom too long?

Do you hear the phrase – "Can I have some money for a new skin?" Do you know that this is what is being bought?

As a school, we are frequently made aware of many inappropriate online activity exchanges. This could be via online games, such as Roblox, Fortnite, other 18+ games or it can be through mobile phones and social media Apps such as WhatsApp, Snapchat, etc...

Monitoring online activity is really important. More and more children and teenagers are caught in the net of cyber crime – the statistics are quite frightening.

Technology and the internet has huge advantages and strengths, but activity, use and times MUST be monitored carefully.

I appreciate the close communication with school, in helping to support children to use technology appropriately and safely, rather than the opposite and getting involved in organised crimes online.

Do you think your child – would give their front door key to another child? (Do they even have a key?) This is their entry mechanism to their home and belongings...

Do you think your child would give their password away? (Do they have one/ more than one?) This is their entry system to..... a big wide world....

Lots of food for thought. Please be aware of what your children are doing online, to keep them safe.

## **Kooth – Emotional Wellbeing Support Service and Counselling**

**Kooth** is a brand new, hot off the press - free online counselling and emotional well-being support service providing young people aged 11-25 years (up to 26<sup>th</sup> birthday) in Hampshire, with a safe and secure means of accessing support with their emotional health and wellbeing needs from a professional team of qualified counsellors.

By accessing Kooth young people can benefit from:

- **A free, confidential, anonymous and safe** way to receive support online.
- **Out of hours' availability.** Counsellors are available from 12noon to 10pm on weekdays and 6pm to 10 pm at weekends, every day of the year on a drop in basis.
- **Online Counselling** from a professional team of BACP qualified counsellors is available via 1-1 chat sessions or messaging on a drop in basis or via booked sessions.



- **Discussion Boards** (which are all pre-moderated) allow young people to access peer to peer support.
- **Online Magazine** full of moderated articles many of which are submitted by young people offering advice and guidance on a huge range of topics.
- **No referral** is required. Young people can register for kooth independently at [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

To use the service or find out more visit [www.Kooth.com](http://www.Kooth.com)

If you are concerned about your child's emotional wellbeing and they are not 11 years old (as this applies only to our Year 6 children), we can signpost to other services for our younger children in Primary school. We have a range of services we can refer you to, to work with. Both Mrs Day and Mrs Poulton are more than happy to discuss your child or family needs at any time and can offer in-school support in an informal way prior to any external support. We are here to support every child and family within the school community. If you would like and additional information, please do speak to us.

### **Week 3 Menu:**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>
<b>Monday</b>	Macaroni & Cheese, Sweetcorn & Peas	Soya Spaghetti Bolognese, Sweetcorn & Peas	Jacket Potato with: Cheese Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo.
	Dessert: Marble Sponge with Custard or Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit		
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pork Sausages, Mash, Gravy, Cauliflower & Cabbage	Vegetarian Sausages, Mash, Gravy, Cauliflower & Cabbage	Jacket Potato with: Cheese Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo.
	Dessert: Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Swede & Carrot Mash	Vegetable Wellington, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Swede & Carrot Mash	Jacket Potato with: Cheese Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo.
	Dessert: Apple, Cheese & Crackers or Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit		
<b>Thursday</b>	Chicken Tikka Curry with 50/50 Rice, Broccoli & Carrots	Lentil & Basil Puff Pastry Whirl with Wedges, Broccoli & Carrots	Jacket Potato with: Cheese Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo.
	Dessert: Pineapple Cake or Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit		
<b>Friday</b>	Fish Fingers, Chips, Baked Beans & Peas	Cheese Frittata, Chips Baked Beans & Peas	Jacket Potato with: Cheese Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo.
	Dessert: Chocolate Cocoa Cookie or Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit		

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

I looks like we could have a storm. If you're watching the football enjoy yourselves – I know many of the children have been talking about this and keeping track of the results.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning ☺

Rebecca Day - Headteacher



## **Gatten and Lake Staffing Structure 2021-2022**

Headteacher – Mrs Rebecca Day

Deputy Headteacher – Mr Jon Kirby

School Business Manager – Mr Andy Creed

Office Administrator – Mrs Nadia Edmunds

Admin Assistant – Mr George Wall

Family Liaison Officer – Mrs Jayne Poulton

SENCO (Special Education Needs Coordinator/Teacher) – Mrs Karin Preston

### **Class Based Staff:**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Class Teacher</b>	<b>Classroom Assistants</b>
EYFS	Mrs Lightfoot / Miss Mitchell	Miss King Miss Waller
Year One	Mr Sherwin	Mrs Price & Miss Sallee / Miss Chapman
Year Two	Miss Essery	Ms McGregor & Miss Falla
Year Three	Mr Kirby	Mrs Godsell & Miss Sallee / Miss Chapman
Year Four	Mrs Frances	Mrs Barton Miss Murthwaite
Year Five	Mrs Holland-Washington	Mrs Lapham Miss Cox
Year Six	Mrs Titchener	Mrs Paula Davies Miss Murthwaite

### **Other teaching/support staff:**

Outdoor Learning Leader – Mrs Carol Jenkins

HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) – Miss Mandy Cox & Miss Sam Mc Gregor

### **MSA's (Midday Supervisory Assistants)**

Mrs Sam Jupe, Mrs Susie Wood, (plus TA cover outside)

### **Cleaning Staff:**

Mrs Diana Dell, Top Mops Contract Staff

