



What's Happening @LRS?

Volume 08 - July 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thank You

Thank you to all staff who have been hard at work preparing for our learners return. I know they have all been extremely busy in ensuring that all decisions and arrangements made are in the best interest of staff and learners safety.

Parents, trust that we have done our utmost in terms of taking precautions with regard to social and physical distancing and regular sanitising.

These are uncertain, difficult times and your support is valued.

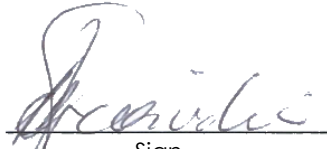
Thank you to all Grade 7 parents for fetching learners promptly after school each day. Your efforts for having been so punctual is greatly appreciated.

Grade 7 venues

As previously communicated, Grade 7's are being taught in the hall. We are carefully monitoring this arrangement and any changes that need to be made, will be communicated with parents.

Please see readiness arrangements for Foundation Phase and Grade 6 learners.

Yours in Education,
Mr Spaarwater
School Principal



Sign

01 July 2020

Date

You are braver than
you believe, and
stronger than you
seem, and smarter
than you think

Christopher Robin

When it rains look for rainbows,
when it's dark look for
stars

Leicester Road School

Dear Parents

Included find snippets from the Government Gazette to explain the reasoning for the procedures that follow.

Government Gazette, 29 May 2020

5. Phased return of learners and officials to school

(1) The Phased return of learners and officials to school will be as follows:

GRADES	RETURN TO SCHOOL DATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grade R• Grade 1• Grade 2• Grade 3• Grade 6	6 July 2020

(10) All events at schools, including sport, choral eisteddfods or choir rehearsals, arts and other cultural festivals, remain suspended until a date determined by the Minister or an official delegated by the Minister, after consultation with the Cabinet.

13. Symptom screening

(1) All persons entering any school premises, hostel or office must be screened at the entrance.

15. Social Distancing and timetable models.

- (1) Every school must comply with the social distancing requirement of at least 1.5 meters, as prescribed in the Regulations.
- (2) In order to ensure compliance with health and safety and social distancing requirements, school facilities must operate at **50% or less** of their capacity at any given time.
- (3) ...Schools may consider any available timetable models suitable for their context and functionality.
 - (a) Daily and weekly rotation
 - (b) Bi-weekly rotation

Foundation Phase Return to School Guidelines

6 and 7 July 2020

First and foremost: Please keep your child at home if he/she is sick.

The Leicester Road Foundation Phase has opted to have the learners at school on a daily **rotational basis**. Learners will attend school on

Mondays and Wednesdays

or

Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Your child's class teacher has communicated with you regarding the days your child/children will attend school. *Please only send your child on their allocated days to ensure with the 50% compliance.*

While at school, the learners will be introduced to, and taught, new concepts.

Learners will be given revision activities to complete for the days they are at home. It is essential that these activities be completed on the days specified.

An educational program for Fridays will be available on the LRS Website, every Friday.

❖ **Before Returning**

Purchase hand sanitizer and wet-wipes for your child's personal use in class.

Purchase flip-files as suggested by your child's Educator. Unlike books, these can be wiped down and sanitized.

Pack whiteboard and whiteboard marker.

**Download a copy of the "Covid 19 Checklist" from the Leicester Road Website and complete it for each child prior to leaving home. Your child will receive another copy from school each time he/she attends. A Covid-19 Checklist needs to be completed every time your child attends school.*

❖ **Uniform**

Learners are to wear their Leicester Road School uniform on Mondays and Tuesdays.

PE Uniform is to be worn on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Learners may wear masks provided by parents. Masks provided by the DBE per learner will be kept by the class teacher and made available if needed.

❖ **Dropping off of Learners:**

To prevent congestion:

Please complete the Covid-19 checklist at home (excluding the temperature) and send the form with your child.

Please drop your child/children and go. There will be Educators on duty to assist your child.

Grade	Time	Gate
R	7:45 to 8:00	Protea Lane Gate
1	7:45 to 8:00	Leicester Road West gate (The gate between the Grade 2 classes)
2	7:15 to 7:30	Leicester Road Main gate
3	7:30 to 7:45	Leicester Road East gate (The gate at the end of the field, normally used for Aftercare Zone learners)

Younger siblings may enter **with** their older siblings at the older sibling's given gate and time.

If the older sibling is not at school on that day, learners then enter at their own grade's gate.

❖ **On Arrival at the Gate**

Children in Grade R – 3 will be sanitized and have their temperatures taken at the respective gates. They will hand in their completed "Covid -19 checklist" to the controller who will record the learners' temperature.

The learner will proceed to their classroom where their teacher will be waiting for them.

❖ **Breaks**

Children should bring a packed lunch as the tuckshop is closed.

Children should bring water in a bottle as communal cups and drinking directly from a tap will be prohibited.

Children who wish to celebrate their birthdays with peers may bring treats in individually packaged plastic packets.

Children will sit in demarcated socially distanced spots.

Children will be given a five minute exercise session in class, at least every hour.

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❖ **Collection of Learners**

Learners will proceed to the gates at the times mentioned below.

Grade	Time	Class	Gate
R	12:30 to 12:45 (unless waiting for older sibling)	RA	Leicester Road <u>West</u> gate (Between Gr 2 Classes)
		RB	Leicester Road <u>Main</u> gate
		RC	Leicester Road <u>East</u> gate (End of the Field)
1	13:00 to 13:15 (unless waiting for older sibling)	1A	Leicester Road <u>West</u> gate (Between Gr 2 Classes)
		1B	Leicester Road <u>Main</u> gate
		1C	Leicester Road <u>East</u> gate (End of the Field)
2	13:30 to 13:45 (unless waiting for older sibling)	2A	Leicester Road <u>West</u> gate (Between Gr 2 Classes)
		2B	Leicester Road <u>Main</u> gate
		2C	Leicester Road <u>East</u> gate (End of the Field)
3	14:00 to 14:15	3A	Leicester Road <u>West</u> gate (Between Gr 2 Classes)
		3B	Leicester Road <u>Main</u> gate
		3C	Leicester Road <u>East</u> gate (End of the Field)

- After 15 minutes at the gate, the learners not collected will proceed back to their classrooms.
- Parents arriving after this collection time, will give their child's name to the guard at the gate, who will send a message to the office for the learner to be called.
- After 14:00, learners in Grade R -2 who are not collected will be socially distanced on the pavement, in Leicester Road to await their parents. (No Educator will be on duty at this time)
- At 14:30, learners in Grade 3 who have not been collected will be socially distanced on the pavement in Leicester Road to await their parents. (No Educator will be on duty at this time)

❖ **Communication**

Should you have any concerns, please raise and discuss them with your child's teacher.

Please respect your child's teacher's personal time. Avoid sending messages/requests before 7:00 and after 17:00.

At this stage, parents are unable to physically access Leicester Road School. Should you wish to have a discussion with the class teacher, please do this via WhatsApp, or Zoom at a mutually convenient time.

❖ **Safety for all is our concern**

All staff at Leicester Road have your child's best interests at heart. None of us have ever dealt with a situation such as this before. We have carefully considered all the procedures we are implementing, but are fully aware that we may have overlooked some procedures. We welcome any suggestions for improvement, as long as the suggestions comply with DBE regulations.

Yours in Education

Mrs Stoffberg (HOD Foundation Phase)

Dear Grade 6 Learners and Parents,

We trust this letter finds you all well. We want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you all for your efforts in maintaining our home-based learning programme. The learners will no doubt be returning to a vastly different school experience on Monday. The teachers will spend Monday morning orientating the learners so that they can understand how school will run from here on out. We are very excited for the return of our Grade 6's.

Our Grade 7 learners have been back for almost 3 weeks now and have settled into a good routine. We feel confident that the Grade 6's will settle well into a nice rhythm given some time.

Please note the contents of Government Gazette no.43465 of 23rd June 2020 on school attendance:

(1) A parent of a learner who does not return to, or attend, school after the phased return to school must apply, to the Head of Department, who, in terms of section 4 of the South African Schools Act, may exempt a learner entirely, partially or conditionally from compulsory school attendance, if it is in the best interests of the learner: Provided that the parent makes reasonable efforts to ensure that the learner continues learning from home in line with the learning materials provided by the school.

(2) Should a parent wish to apply for a learner to receive education at the learner's home (home education), he or she must comply with the legal requirements for the provision of home education, as contemplated in section 51 of the South African Schools Act.

All Grade 6 learners returning to school will be divided into two groups:

- Group 1 will return on Monday 06 July 2020 (Week 1)
- Group 2 will return on Monday 13 July 2020 (Week 2)
- This will be a weekly rotational timetable.
- We will monitor this arrangement, and communicate any changes if need be.
- Please note that nothing is set in stone, the school receives many directives that change almost daily!

The staff have spent many hours in meetings to ensure that the return to school and into classrooms will be as safe and easy as possible. The Grade 6's will be returning to school on Monday, the 6th of July. We, as Grade 6 teachers, want to alleviate your and your children's fears and send you some pointers of what will happen when they return and some of the protocols.

Please note learners will have to supply their own masks for the first day that they are back at school. They will be issued with DBE PPE upon arrival to their allocated classrooms. **PLEASE NOTE MASKS ARE TO BE WORN FROM THE MOMENT THE LEARNER LEAVES YOUR VEHICLE. NO MASK=NO ENTRY.** Please note that taking off a mask unnecessarily will have serious consequences.

All of these are in line with DBE guidelines.

At home:

Prepare your child for the transition back to school, as school-life is going to be different from what we are used to.

We would like you, as the parent, to communicate the following to your child, prior to their return to school. Explain what social and physical distancing actually means to your child.

- Practise wearing masks at all times.
- Washing hands / sanitising hands on a regular basis.
- Social/ physical distancing during break times.
- Every morning before you bring your child to school, ask your child the following questions:
 - Do you have a cough?
 - Do you have a fever? (check forehead – must be less than 38°C).
 - Do you have a sore throat?

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- Do you have shortness of breath?
- Have you been in contact with someone who has had COVID 19 in the past 14 days?
- If your child says “yes” to the above, please keep him or her at home. **Please also report, if your child complains of body aches, loss of smell or loss of taste, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, fatigue, weakness, headaches, dizziness or tiredness to the school.**

Getting ready for school:

The following is to help you prepare for the safe return to school.

- No school bags will be allowed.
- No blankets may be brought to school, the classrooms are warm.
- Arrive at school on the first day with all of your books and stationery in a plastic bag or a reusable shopper.
- Please include wet wipes and/or tissues and a small sanitizer in the bag. Your plastic bag/shopper and all its contents will remain at school.
- Your lunchbox is the only item that can be brought to and from school daily. Please wash your lunch box every day. Break times will be communicated to you at school.
- Please note that there will be no Tuckshop available and learners will be unable to share lunch.
- **Uniform:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday= Winter school uniform
- Tuesdays and Thursdays= Civvies.
- Period 11 on Friday will be a drop all and read period, please pack a reading book for this.

Arrival at school:

- The school gate at Derby Road (the entrance to the school for Grade 6 and 7) will only be open from 07:15. Please do not arrive earlier than this.
- The Grade 6 learners will line up outside the gates at the markings (parents to wait in the car, for a few minutes to ensure that their child has advanced past the temperature stage at the gate). The questionnaire will be conducted in the hall foyer.
- Grade 6 learners will be guided up to their classrooms. Each learner will be informed of their new classroom venue at school.
- The school day will then commence.

At school:

- Day 1 will begin with an Orientation and will continue with revision. School will end at 14:00.
- Parents to wait in their cars to collect their children.
- Please note that loitering is strictly prohibited. There will be NO supervision at the Derby Road Gate after school, please be prompt when collecting your children. Learners still at school after 14h30, will be collected outside the school on the pavement on the marked dots.
- School operating hours from Monday, 6th of July will be from 07:15, until 14:00. On Fridays, school will end at 12:35.
- All extra-curricular activities have been cancelled.
- Learners will be provided with work on their week off from school.

We look forward to welcoming you back to LRS!

Kind regards,

The Grade 6 team.