



**Lord Deramore's
Primary School**



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Tuesday 7th September 2021

Welcome back!

Dear parents and carers,

I wanted to end the children's first day back with a quick letter. It has been absolutely wonderful to see our children – both 'old' and new – return to school. We have all had a happy first day back and your children should be congratulated for their usual exceptional behaviour, attitude and infectious smiles. It's been wonderful to meet many of our new children and I am confident that they will all be very happy at our friendly school.

As reported at the end of the summer term, we have been instructed by the government to remove many of the previous Covid control measures. The measures which remain however include:

- Heightened hygiene, cleaning and handwashing
- Increased ventilation in classrooms (don't forget to ensure children have jumpers and/or fleeces as the weather gets chillier)
- Staff continue to carry out Lateral Flow Testing twice a week
- Symptomatic children and staff will isolate and take a PCR test
- Families will be notified if there is a confirmed case in their child's class. A recommendation would be made for any children deemed potential 'close contacts' to book a PCR test.
- Contingency plans may be activated by the local Public Health team should we see an increase in confirmed cases within the local area or school community. These will likely mirror the stricter control arrangements in place during the summer term.

For more detailed information, please view our updated risk assessments at www.lordderamores.com/covid-19 (please note that these will be uploaded later tomorrow – 8th September). The government's new operational guide for schools is also available via the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

Whilst some of you may be nervous about the relaxing of measures, we are naturally obliged to follow the Department for Education's direction

about school operations and work in line with any national restrictions in place. We will continue to work openly and transparently with all families to keep Lord Deramore's as safe as it can be.

Please may I extend a very warm welcome to some new members of staff who have joined us this week. **Mrs Claire Thompson** and **Ms Phillipa Richardson** are working with us on a temporary basis to help us with SEN teaching assistant support/capacity. May I also extend our community's congratulations to **Mrs Hiles** (previously Miss Harrison) on her recent wedding. **Mrs Carr** starts in her Assistant Headteacher position this week and **Mrs Jones** has now joined the Senior Leadership Team as Phase 1 Leader.

As always, my colleagues and I look forward to working closely with you all during the academic year ahead of us. Please remember to contact staff if you ever have any questions or concerns. We always find it better if worries or issues are flagged up early so that we can work together to keep your children happy in school. Email contacts are as follows:

Early Years	Mr Sharpe	asharpe@lordderamores.com
Y1	Mrs Jones & Mrs Gulliver	jjones@lordderamores.com agulliver@lordderamores.com
Y2	Mrs McKenna & Mrs McCormack	smckenna@lordderamores.com mmccormack@lordderamores.com
Y3	Mr Richards	mrichards@lordderamores.com
Y4	Mrs Carr	rcarr@lordderamores.com
Y5	Mrs Hiles	lhiles@lordderamores.com
Y6	Miss Smith	hsmith@lordderamores.com
Special Needs	Mrs Hitchon	jhitchon@lordderamores.com

We will be sharing our 2021/22 'Dates for the Diary' with you shortly so that you are aware of upcoming events. Let us keep positive that we will have the first 'normal' academic in two years!

With my best wishes,



James Rourke
Headteacher