



# Longmeadow Primary School

---

**Headteacher: Mrs Lynne Osborne**

**Deputy Headteacher: Miss Bronwyn Janes**

Oaks Cross, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG2 8LT

01438 351 087

[admin@longmeadow.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@longmeadow.herts.sch.uk)

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Changes from September

Dear parents,

As we come to the end of the summer term I felt it important to highlight a few changes that we are making in the autumn. I appreciate that change can be difficult, but I am sure that you will understand that these revisions are with the best interests of the children at the forefront of our minds. We are striving to improve standards and attainment at Longmeadow and I am sure that we can count on your support in these endeavours.

### The school day

At the moment the KS1 and KS2 gates are open from 08.35 and 08.40 respectively. There is then a twenty minute window before the gates are closed. From September, the EYFS and KS1 gates will be open from 08.30-08.40 and KS2 from 08.35-08.45. Children who arrive at school after 08.40/08.45 will need to come in through the main reception.

### Why are we doing this?

By reducing the 'soft start time' we are increasing the amount of learning time. Children will come into school and get on with their learning straight away. As a school, our results are much lower than we would hope – having a more focused start to the day will encourage good learning habits and improve progress.

### Snacks and water bottles

From September, only fruit will be allowed for morning snack, no crisps/biscuits/cakes. As you may be aware, children in EYFS and KS1 are provided with a free piece of fruit/vegetable daily. Although KS2 children do not receive free fruit they are encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit for a mid-morning snack.

### Why are we doing this?

As a school we have a duty to promote healthy eating and lifestyles. You are probably aware that Britain is in the middle of an obesity epidemic and that child tooth decay is the biggest reason for hospitalisations for children under 6. Please do help us to help your children by only sending in fruit snacks and water/flavoured water.

If items other than these are sent in they will be sent home.

### Uniform expectations

From September, children will be expected to wear full Longmeadow uniform unless it is a non-uniform day. Sweatshirts/cardigans can be branded with the Longmeadow logo or plain but the correct colour. School shoes (not trainers) must be black and no other type of shoes are to be worn unless this has been pre-agreed with the class teacher. No hoop earrings, just small studs that need to be taped over on PE days, for safety. No make up, including nail varnish.

### Why are we doing this?

We want both parents and children to be proud of Longmeadow School and to show this in their uniform. Uniform creates a sense of identity and also ensures that no child feels left out.

### PE kit

Children will no longer be coming to school in PE kit. Instead, PE bags should be kept in school and pupils will get changed for PE lessons. The children in Reception class will not get changed until the Spring term.

### Why are we doing this?

Changing clothes and managing belongings independently is a life skill that we need to help the children develop. In addition, having asked parents to purchase uniform and school shoes, it is important this uniform then gets worn.

The expected PE kit is:

Plain black shorts/jogging bottoms/leggings

Black/white trainers

Plain white t-shirt

Named PE bag which will be kept in school

I do appreciate that there are a lot of changes included in this letter, although most of these would have been in place prior to the disruption caused by Covid. I also understand that some of these changes may be unpopular. However, please be assured that these changes are made with the very best interests of your children at the forefront of our minds. The drive to improve Longmeadow continues.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Have a lovely holiday when it comes.

Kind regards,

Mrs Osborne and the Longmeadow Team.