

Areas of Responsibility report September 2020

Lacock Primary School

School has successfully reopened with covid rules in place. Staggered start and finish times are in place allowing for social distancing by parents. The children work within their allotted “bubble”. The year began with the children going back into their last years group to allow them to settle in with the teacher they already knew. Then last week they moved up into their correct year group with their new teacher. All are working well within the confines of a small area.

2020 Intake

Excellent news - this year has seen 12 children accepted into reception class. This bodes well for the future.

Increased Social distancing measures

Following on from the example set by the NT outside the shop, Temporary spacing marks are being lined outside the school w/c 14/9/20. This will help with drop off and pick up times.

Wise Owls Preschool

Wise owls is open and coping well with the new regulations. They have had lots of guidance from the early years team at the council and are working hard to keep everyone safe and well. They are really busy with lots of new starters.

Both school and preschool are very keen to be involved with a community orchard and are looking forward to hearing of future plans and how they can help.

Update from Ian Revill at Lackham

Covid at the end of 19-20

Last academic year ended abruptly with the campuses closing on March 20th.

Students were supported and taught on-line and assessments were concluded with a mix of existing grades, set exams (some delayed) and teacher-calculated grades. This was unprecedented but we believe that

the whole College should be immensely proud of the way that it stepped up to this challenge and strived to ensure that our students were not disadvantaged by these changes in their circumstances.

Covid into 2020-21

We have re-opened this week with subject groups being confined to defined zones with their co-hort within a 'bubble'. In effect each department has become a small independent unit with eating arrangements, toilet access, outdoor spaces, common room and teaching all contained within it's own zone. We have complied fully with all social distancing and other expectations to keep our staff and students as safe as it is possible to do. We had one positive test very early in the Summer and that member of staff returned to work fit and well after the required absence for quarantine. Given that the campus was closed for all non-essential farm and animal related staff they had only had contact with one other person, who also self-isolated as required.

Student Numbers

We have seen substantial growth in Agriculture students so far, but the numbers studying at Higher Education level are similarly reduced due to the additional spaces made available in universities and the high number choosing to defer their places for a year. The number of apprentices is slightly down; given that they depend on having real jobs this is actually less of an impact than we had anticipated (so far). It's a bit early to give accurate numbers as we are still enrolling but on balance I'd say that the total number of students is pretty much the same. Given that large elements of the courses' theory lectures are remaining on-line, attendance at the campus will be reduced (most students have one day of study from home and two days of work experience).

These impacts have placed significant financial pressures on the whole education sector and we are seeking loans to allow us to support these measures.

Build projects

The builds are only slightly behind schedule due to covid delay.

Ian has sent lots of photos and videos showing the progress made (which I am happy to send on if LP Councillors would like to see them) and has offered a visit for LPC members as soon as this is practical.