

Headteacher: Mr Ryan Lewis

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Co-op Academy
Hillside

Welcome Back, Almost!

Wednesday 29th August, 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to write to introduce myself, and to share some information that you, hopefully, will find useful.

Following Mrs Thompson-Broom's decision to move on, I have been asked by Co-op Academies to join you until a Headteacher is recruited. Having worked in and around Bradford for the past Twenty-Two years, I'm really excited to join the community on the Wirral. I've spent recent weeks getting to know the school, and the staff team, and Hillside seems like a really lovely place to be; I'm really looking forward to joining the team, and I hope I can contribute to making Co-op Academy Hillside a great place for children to thrive.

I will be travelling from Halifax, so will stay on the Wirral when I'm working in school; this means that I can't be in school every day, unfortunately. I will be in school on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays - travelling home on a Tuesday evening and working remotely on a Wednesday. This doesn't mean that I won't be fully engaged with the school and available for you on the telephone, should you need me. Mrs Hamer will be available on a Wednesday, should you need her. Miss Bergman will be onsite on a Thursday each week.

I'm looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you and your children.

Meeting me

I'm available for you, as-and-when you need me, but if I can just ask that you try to help me to help you by sticking to the following:



What you need...	How you can contact me...
Meeting and greeting me, or minor questions and queries	I'll aim to be on the gate every morning and after school (not Wednesdays though remember)
A longer face-to-face conversation to discuss anything important	Give the office a call, or email hillside-office@coopacademies.co.uk and I'll book an appointment to see you; if you can give me some possible times you're available that would be really helpful
You want to speak to me on the phone the same day	I might not always be able to manage this, but I will always try, even if it means calling a little later in the evening. If you email the school office and mark your email as 'urgent' they'll pass it straight on. You can ring and ask for a callback too.
To make a complaint	I really hope you won't need to - I'll work hard to resolve any worries or concerns above; however, if you really need to, the complaints policy is on the website. Put your complaint in writing with as much detail as possible to hillside-office@coopacademies.co.uk . Mark it as a complaint. Between myself and Mrs Bergman, I hope we can fix things quickly for you.
You want to give feedback on the Academy, your child's education, or Co-op Academies Trust	We'll be running Coffee Mornings each week, these will be led by a range of colleagues, and you can see the schedule below. We'll also be running 'welcome to your new class' meetings led by class teachers. See the schedule below.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will continue to run as before the summer break. There will still be small charge for breakfast club (£1.50); we need your help to make sure this runs safely and smoothly:

- Drop your child at the main entrance, and ensure they have been received by an adult, and have signed in on the screen, before you leave the site. They are not in our care if you don't ensure they're handed to a colleague.

- The door will be open at 8am, and will be closed to all arrivals promptly at 8:40am
- If you arrive after 8:40am, you will need to make your way to your child's class room and wait for the door to open.

Thanks for helping us with this.

After school Club

I believe Firbobs will no longer be delivering after school care on the site. As I have only just arrived at the Academy, we have had to act quickly to get an alternative in place. We are continuing to work hard to finalise arrangements, but we assure there will be an offer for you.

If you need a place, please complete this [form](#) - places are available for all families who need after school provision.

For the first week, we will offer a snack and activities, to ensure that childcare is in place at the start, for those who need it. From week 2, we will be offering a hot meal and activities in the after school club.

The charge for week 1 will be £2 per pupil

From week 2 onwards, we will confirm the cost next week - the cost will be no more than parents have paid for after school care at school, previously.

A few reminders

Drop off and collection:

Year group	Drop off	Collection
Nursery (F1)	Nursery door – gate next to main office	Nursery door – gate next to main office
Reception (F2)	Green gate – main playground	Reception door – through green gate
Year 1	Main playground	Year 1 door – through green gate
Year 2	Main playground	Year 1 door – through green gate
Year 3	Main playground	Main playground
Year 4	Main playground	Main playground

Year 5	Main playground	Main playground
Year 6	Main playground	Main playground

Uniform

Details of the school uniform are on the school website, and can be found [here](#). As has been the policy of Co-op Academies Trust, the previous uniform will remain current and acceptable, and will never be withdrawn, this is better for the environment and better for your pocket!

Coffee Mornings

All coffee mornings will take place in the Hall, and we'll let you in the Hall door, near the car park (you can turn right outside the main school doors and walk around). We'll add more dates and information sessions as the term progresses, but we wanted to get some dates out straight away to meet with you all.

Date	Time	Who	Purpose
Friday 8th September	09:00 - 09:30	Mr Lewis	Parent Voice
Thursday 14th September	09:00 - 09:30	Mrs Bergman/Mr Lewis	Parent Voice
Thursday 21st September	16:30 - 17:00 (for those who can't make mornings)	Mr Lewis/Mrs Hamer/Mr Farrell/Mrs McLaughlin	Parent Voice
Wednesday 4th October	09:00	Mrs Hamer	Introduction to Read Write Inc.
Every Wednesday	9am	Mrs McLaughlin/Mrs Hamer	Pastoral Queries/Parent Voice

Yours Sincerely,

R. J. Lewis

Mr Ryan Lewis
Headteacher (Interim)