



BEARWOOD Primary and Nursery School

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Learning, Enjoying & Succeeding Together

3rd September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back

I hope that you have all had a good summer break. We are thoroughly looking forward to welcoming back all of our pupils full time next week on Monday 7th September. We have been working hard over the summer holiday to implement control measures to provide pupils with a safe and welcoming environment in which to continue their learning.

The government released updated guidance for schools on reopening last week and the full guidance can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

When I wrote to you in the summer term I outlined the measures that we were putting in place to minimise the contact between individuals and groups to maintain social distancing wherever possible. Some of the following information was explained in my July letter but some sections have been updated in light of the guidance released over the summer break.

When will our school be open?

The school will be open to **all** pupils from Monday the 7th of September. Nursery and Reception have been sent separate communication regarding their transition into school. Please can I remind you that attending school will be compulsory again in September. This means all children should be in school, unless they are unwell or have a reason for absence that has been agreed.

Will my child need to come in uniform?

Yes please. There is a clear expectation that all pupils wear the correct uniform and follow the school expectations around code and conduct: <https://www.bearwood.poole.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Prospectus-2019-2020.pdf>.

Does my child need to bring in a PE kit?

Pupils will be required to come dressed in their PE kit and wear this all day on the day that they have PE. You will receive a power point from the class teacher which will inform you of your child's PE day.



Bearwood Primary and Nursery is a founding school of The Hillary Partnership. Registered in England and Wales –
Number 10286967

Registered office Unit E, The Mill Yard, Nursling Street, Nursling, Southampton, England, SO16 0AJ
An Exempt Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee, VAT registration number: 197 0569 67

Will the start and finish times of the school day be the same?

No. We will operate a staggered start and finish time - this is to reduce contact across groups and to control social distancing expectations.

8.30am – 3.00pm	Year 1
8.35am – 3.05pm	Year 3
8.40am – 3.10pm	Year 6
8.45am – 3.15pm	Year 2
8.50am – 3.20pm	Year 4
8.55am – 3.25pm	Year 5
9:00am – 3.30pm	Reception
9:00am – 12:00pm	Nursery

Will entrance and exit into school be the same?

No. We will be operating a one-way system, therefore most children will enter/exit via a different gate and/or door. We will operate a 'holding bay' in the form of a social distancing queue, in the car park. There will be clear markings and we expect all adults and children to strictly adhere to these markings. Staff will be on hand to help and support you. The aim of this is not to have gatherings of people at any one time. Please ensure that you swiftly drop your child at the school gate or the green fence (by EYFS) to enable the process to run smoothly.

What if I have more than one child but they have different time slots?

We recognise that many parents will have to drop the siblings at the same time. Please be aware that if you have no other option but to drop them at the same time, that the sibling who has arrived early will be placed in their class bubble and will have to read until the start time of their class.

How do I contact the office or a get messages to the staff?

The school office will be closed to all parents/carers and visitors. If you need to speak to a member of staff then please email or phone the office, if appropriate an appointment will be made for you, but otherwise entry into the school will not be permitted.

Can my child come to school with a runny nose or if they are feeling under the weather?

We want to keep all children in our care safe and well, so we are asking that if your child feels even slightly under the weather they do not attend school until they are better. Please call the school office to inform them of your child's absence. If we believe that your child is unwell whilst they are at school, we will contact you to ask you to collect them.

How are you keeping my child safe when they are in school?

We will be using lots of soap and water, as well as lots of anti-bacterial hand gel, on entry and exit, throughout the day, before lunch and at regular intervals. Children will be placed into classes, which we are calling 'bubbles'. Your child will work in their class which may consist of 2 adults. They will be taught by their teacher all day, every day and remain in the same room for their lessons. 'Bubbles' of children will not be permitted to mix or change - this is so we reduce contact and cross contamination.

Please ensure that pupils only bring in plastic bags for lunch, reading books and water bottles. No equipment or school pack is permitted.



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Am I able to bring soap and/or hand gel for my child?

We will provide all soap and hand gel for the children. If your child has a medical condition that requires them to use specific soap, please contact the school office before your child's return in order that we can arrange for your child to bring their soap to school.

How will you keep the desks clean?

Now that all pupils are returning, there will be approximately 30 in each 'bubble.' We are following government guidance and ensuring that we are making small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible. This includes seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on, and moving unnecessary furniture out of classrooms to make more space.

Children will have access to their own desk and chair or carpet space throughout the day - no other child will use them. These desks/spaces will be 2 metres apart. Staff will regularly spray the desks and chairs down.

What will my child be learning?

Our aim remains to offer a broad and ambitious curriculum, however we recognise the need to allow time to cover the most important missed content. We will carefully assess the needs of each individual pupil and plan a recovery curriculum accordingly. We will place a greater emphasis on the basic skills of reading, phonics, handwriting and mathematics as well as PHSE and will aim to teach these through other curriculum subjects. As we assess the needs of each class, the curriculum delivery will change, therefore we will not be sending out a curriculum newsletter this half term. We will also ensure that we have plans in place to offer a full and comprehensive programme of remote education should there be a local outbreak and pupils have to learn from home.

Will my child still be expected to complete home learning?

Yes. The impact of COVID-19 has meant that schools have met an unpredictable array of challenges and we are now working to re-establish routines and reconnect with the pupils, so that all pupils go on to thrive. Home learning has been crucial in ensuring that pupils not only access education but are also closing the gap. **Each teacher will continue to set home learning as part of essential homework tasks.** These tasks will build on and pre-teach the learning that is happening in class. This could be in the form of videos, signposting to websites and online learning. It is therefore vital that all pupils are accessing homework online as well as reading every day. If there is any reason your child is not able to access and complete the home learning then please let the class teacher know.

What if I need breakfast and/or after school care?

Unfortunately Kidscape will no longer offer wrap around care due to the current situation. We recognise that many parents still require this provision and we are working to find an alternative solution in these difficult circumstances. However, we are able to provide breakfast club for a small number of pupils at a two-metre distance using the hall. Each child will be offered a pre wrapped pain au chocolate/croissant or small boxed cereal. Pupils will also be expected to stay at their table and watch a programme. Currently, there is no after school clubs running until at least after October half term.

Further information relating to children going back to school for the Autumn Term is available direct from the Government website at: [gov.uk/backtoschool](https://www.gov.uk/backtoschool)



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If you have any questions regarding these plans then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Bennett
Headteacher



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