



BEARWOOD Primary and Nursery School

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Bearwood Primary and Nursery School
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Learning, Enjoying & Succeeding Together

24th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and your families are staying safe and well. We have been working hard to put all the plans in place (following the latest government guidance) for all our pupils to return to school on the 8th of March. We know that you may have lots of questions and we hope that this letter will help answer them.

When will our school be open?

The school will be open to **all** pupils from Monday the 8th of March. Please can I remind you that attending school will be compulsory again from the 8th of March. 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.

Does my child need to bring in a PE kit?

No. The children will not need their PE kits but will be notified by the class teacher on the days they will be required to come into school in their kit. In addition a list of PE Days are listed in the Announcements on your MCAS App for reference.

Can my child wear PPE?

The latest government guidance is that young children should not wear face masks under any circumstances.

Will I need to provide any equipment?

Each child will be given their own resource pack by the school, so no learning equipment will be required. You will need to provide your child with their own named water bottle and their lunch in a throw away bag if they are not having hot meals. Please provide a mid-morning snack of fruit or vegetables for Key Stage 2 children (this is provided in school for Key Stage 1). Please do not bring any school bags or book bags at this stage.

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

We recognise that many parents still require this provision and we are hoping to get this up and running for after the Easter holidays. Further details to follow. However, we are able to provide Breakfast Club for a small number of pupils at a two-metre distance using the hall. This will be offered on a first come first served basis, running from 7.50am to 8.50am at a cost of £3.50 per child with a discount of 50p for siblings.



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
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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. Breakfast Club will be available to book from Wednesday 3rd March using My Child at School (MCAS). If you usually pay for Breakfast Club using childcare vouchers, please email the school office once you have booked your space to advise. If you require help setting up My Child at School please contact the school office.

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

We will operate a staggered start and finish time again - this is to reduce contact across groups and to control social distancing expectations.

Nursery – 9am – 12.00pm

Year R – 9am – 3.30pm

Year 1 – 8.30am – 3.00pm

Year 2 – 8.45am – 3.15pm

Year 3 – 8.35am – 3.05pm

Year 4 – 8.50am – 3.20pm

Year 5 – 8.55am – 3.25pm

Year 6 – 8.40am – 3.10pm

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

We recognise that many parents will have to drop siblings at the same time and request that all siblings are *dropped off at the time that the earliest sibling starts*. They should be *collected at the time that the latest sibling finishes*. Please be aware that if you have no other option but to drop them at the same time, 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.

Where will my child enter school?

We will be operating a one-way system with a 'holding bay' in the form of a social distancing queue, in the pedestrianised car park. There will be clear markings and we expect all adults and children to strictly adhere to these markings. A copy of a map showing you how to navigate the car park is attached. 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. If you drive to school, please ensure that you do not park across any dropped curb which would block any of our neighbours' driveway. We have attached a map of suggested roads that you could park in.

Can I still escort my child into school?

Of course, many children will need support from you to give them the confidence that everything is OK and that they are going in the right direction. **Only one adult** and one child will be permitted in the holding bays and through the main gates. No adults will be allowed entry into the playground, classrooms or into the school building. **Please ensure that you are wearing a mask unless exempt.**



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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.

My child has to take regular medication or carry an Epi-pen/inhaler. How do I bring this in to school?

If your child requires regular medication/an Epi-Pen or inhaler, please contact the school office to discuss.

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.

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 areas clean?

Working with the cleaners, there will be a greater level of cleaning, with regular deep cleaning across all the school. In every classroom, there will be antibacterial sprays and wipes, gloves, tissues and staff will clean desks and door handles throughout the day.

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.

Will Chartwells be providing hot meals?

Yes, you can order hot meals from Chartwells or your child can bring a packed lunch. Please note hot school meals will need to be ordered **by Sunday 28th February** at the latest for meals to be provided for the week commencing 8th March <https://dorset.mealselector.co.uk/OrderMeals.aspx>

We borrowed a laptop. Do we need to return this on the 8th March?

Yes please. As the children will now be accessing face to face learning, we need to collect the laptops. Peter Leddin, the school Business Manager, will be stationed by the entrance to collect the laptop and ensure that you have signed the appropriate paperwork.



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Might these new routines change?

Yes, like everything at the moment, we will encounter aspects of the plans that work and some that do not and will need to be adapted. Also, when the national picture changes and Government advice changes, we will adapt our plans and arrangements.

Please stay safe and if you wish to contact me, please do not hesitate to contact me via the office. Thank you for your flexibility and support while we work to ensure a safe and supportive 'normal' environment for all of our children. We look forward to welcoming your child/ren back on Monday 8th March.

Yours sincerely,



Laura Bennett
Head Teacher



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