



Bradwell Village School

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"Striving for excellence, providing a caring environment where every child matters"

Executive Headteacher Dr Diane Elleman

www.bradwellvillageschool.co.uk

4th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We are looking forward to having the children back in school from next Monday, so I am writing to update you with the latest guidance and how it will influence what we do in school. I am glad to say that most of the arrangements we put into place before the holiday will continue from next Monday.

Following the release of the latest guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on Friday 28th August 2020, we have been continuing to work on our plans for the full opening of Bradwell Village School from Monday 7th September 2020. I can now confirm that the plans shared with you in July will go ahead as they meet the requirements of the most recent guidance.

As we are expecting all children to return to school, please share these plans with your child. On the days when your child does not have PE/Sport, they will be expected to wear school uniform. Footwear for all children can include plain black trainers.

The school day

In line with our current arrangements, we are maintaining a staggered start to the school day. The children will come into school at different times and will enter the building according to their year group. We will also have staggered break and lunch times and the timing of the end of the day will be determined by your child's start time. We have maintained the length of the teaching day, but we have shortened the lunch break to 40 minutes to prevent extended times when the children have the potential to mix with others. We have liaised with Priory Common School to try to alleviate congestion around each school at drop off and pick up times.

Times for drop off and pick up are:

| Year Group | Start Time | Finish Time | Entrance/Exit |
|------------|------------|-------------|--|
| Year 3 | 9.00am | 3.05pm | Via the Redway into the year 3/4 entrance |
| Year 4 | 8.50am | 2.55pm | Via the Redway into the year 3/4 entrance |
| Year 5 | 9.00am | 3.05pm | Via the front of the school into the year 5/6 entrance |
| Year 6 | 8.50am | 2.55pm | Via the front of the school into the year 5/6 entrance |

Parents/carers are to drop off their child at the gate in which your child is to enter school. Please observe social distancing in these areas. Staff will be on the gates to welcome your child into school. On entry, your child will use the hand sanitiser available on entry to school. At the end of the day, please collect your child promptly but do not arrive more than 5 minutes before your child's collection time. For the collection of your child, please wait outside of the school gates, again observing social distancing. Your child will use hand sanitiser as they leave the building. The children **do not** need to bring a school bag or pencil case into school, as we will provide all of the equipment they will need. Water bottles will be allowed in school.

Face masks/coverings

It is at the parent /carer's discretion whether your child will wear a face covering whilst in school. In line with the guidance, school staff will generally not be wearing a face covering. If you would like your child to wear a face mask, please provide a sealable bag for when it is not being worn.

Pupil groupings

In line with the guidance, we are now able to operate with larger groups of children. To enable us to ability set the children for English and maths, our bubbles will be the whole year group. Specific staff will be allocated to the year group. This will allow us the greatest flexibility in delivering the timetable and the year groups will not mix with one another. Year teams will be based in one area and will be taught all subjects within their area. The only exception to this is will be PE/Sports lessons, which will be taught outside whenever possible. On the day/s, your child has PE/Sport, they will be allowed to come into school wearing loose clothing i.e. tracksuit bottoms, along with a T-shirt in their house colour. A sweatshirt or similar may be worn on cold days. Suitable footwear also needs to be worn for PE/Sport. Children will not be allowed to change for PE/Sport. PE/Sports days are:

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Year 3 (PE) | Year 6 (PE) Year 4 (Games) Year 5 (Games) | Year 3 (Games) Year 6 (Games) | Year 5 (PE) | Year 4 (PE) |

Break and lunch times

At break and lunch times, the children will be able to generally socialise within their designated outdoor area with other children from their class and with children from the other 2 classes in their year group. Alternative arrangement may be made to further socially distance groups of pupils if we are able to make these arrangements.

Lunch

An external provider (St Paul's School) provides our school lunches. For the first half term, we have asked them not to provide hot school meals as this would mean that we could not keep the children from mixing with others outside of their year group. During this time, St Paul's will be able to offer a choice of packed lunches, which can be ordered in the usual way via their portal. Children who bring a packed lunch into school will be able to do so, but the packed lunch should be in either disposable packaging or a rigid plastic washable container. No soft material lunch boxes. Packed lunches will be ate at the child's table in their classroom. The remainder of the lunch break will be spent outside, weather permitting.

Music lesson

Any music lessons which, would normally be delivered by external staff, will not be available for the duration of the Autumn Term, as we will not have the facilities to offer these.

Extra-curricular activities

We do not have any plans to offer extra-curricular clubs during the first half of the Autumn Term. We will however, review this situation prior to half term.

Wrap around care

It is important in September that we establish the routines around the delivery of lessons to your child, therefore, initially we will not be offering after school club. We will be working with BVCC to establish a start date for resuming our wrap around care. Should you wish to enquire about care please contact annegilpin@outlook.com

Attendance

The expectation is that every child returns to school in September. The exception to this is if your child displays the symptoms of COVID-19. It is important that your child does not come into school and that they are booked in for a test. Please inform us in the usual way of any absence and if your child is being tested, please tell us. If your child displays symptoms whilst at school, we will ask you to collect them and then to arrange for them to be tested. Attendance will be monitored from 7th September onwards and the usual penalties will apply for unauthorised non-attendance. It is therefore important that the reason for absence is made clear when informing us that your child will not be in school.

Communication

Whilst the school office is open from 8.00am to 4.00pm every day when the school is open, we encourage parents and carers to communication with school staff via telephone or email wherever possible. If for any reasons, you need to drop something into school or collect something, please observe social distancing.

Positive tests

If any of our children or staff test positive for COVID-19, we will first contact Milton Keynes Council and Public Health England who will prescribe actions for us to take. This may include closing down a year group or in some cases the whole school for a period of self-isolation. If this is the case, we will keep you informed and will maintain your child's education with work packs and online learning materials. If you do not have access to an internet-enabled device, we will still offer the printed packs.

Whilst we are still in the midst of a global pandemic, we believe that the arrangements we have made for your child will hopefully reduce the risks for all children and staff when planning for the wider reopening of our school. We will continue with our enhanced cleaning regime and will also promote robust hand and respiratory hygiene. To reduce the risk of cross contamination, it will be helpful if children could be supplied with a pack of tissues as we will be observing the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' procedure.

We would also like you to inform us about how your child will be going home - met by parent or other, walking, bus etc.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact your child's class teacher via the class email address.

Yours sincerely



Dr Diane Elleman
Executive Headteacher