



Bearn's Voluntary Primary School

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19/5/2020

School Opening - 1st June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have seen that the government are proposing that children in Preschool, Reception (Early Years), Year 1 and Year 6 return to school on 1st June, after the school closure due to Covid19. This letter outlines our approach to this phase of the return, and it is important that you read it thoroughly.

We have been given guidance that outlines how we can best enable the children to return safely and the following link is an important guide for parents to read:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

The following groups will be able to return to school:

- Children who are on roll in Preschool, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6
- Children that have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- Children who have an allocated social worker (referred to as vulnerable by the government)
- Children whose parents are defined as a critical worker as outlined by the most recent government Covid19 guidelines

The critical worker and 'vulnerable' group will be known as the '**key group**'.

It is not within the guidance to allow siblings of any of these pupils.

We will be doing our utmost to keep children and adults safe from Covid 19 with the following measures:

The school day

There will be a staggered start and end to each school day.

We will be able to offer breakfast club to the critical worker group only during this time, to ensure that groups in school do not mix.

- **Critical workers children to start school between 8:00am & 8:30am**, enter school via the side gate. They will be met by a member of staff and directed to go and wash their hands, apply sanitiser and sit at named desks (monitored by staff) for breakfast.
- **Y6 pupils to arrive at 8:45am** - enter school via their classroom door from the front playground
- **Y1 pupils to arrive at 9:00am** - enter school via KS1 gate on the front playground
- **EYFS pupils to arrive at 9:15am** - Pupils to enter school via EYFS gate on the front playground

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A staggered end to each day

- **2:45pm EYFS children to be collected** from the EYFS gate at the front of school. All social distancing measures to be the same as morning drop off
- **3:00pm Y1 children to be collected** from the KS1 gate on the front playground where they were dropped off. All social distancing measures to be the same as morning drop off
- **3:15pm Y6 children to be collected** from their classroom door via the front playground - teachers will line children up and bring them to the door. All social distancing measures to be the same as morning drop off
- **Critical workers** may collect their children between 3:15pm and 3:30pm

Staff will send one child to a parent at a time, ensuring social distancing can be effective and ask that you support us in this. As the school gate is quite narrow, I would ask that you are considerate of the social distancing guidelines when entering and exiting school. Parents are required to take children home immediately and not to stay on site.

The group classed as 'Vulnerable' should arrive between 8:45am and 9:00am and be collected at 3:15pm. This group will remain with the critical workers group throughout the day.

Learning

Learning will not be 'as normal' and the requirements to teach a broad and balanced curriculum are disapplied. Of course, children will continue with the home-school learning within school, but the primary focus will be on friendship (social and emotional development), re-adjusting to school routine, transition and well-being.

Staff have been allocated to a set group and the same teacher(s) and TA are, as far as possible, with this one group during the day and on subsequent days to minimise the risk of infection. Whilst at school your children will be in the following classes with the following staff:

EYFS: will use their classroom as their base for the day. Mrs Yeo, Mrs Seddon and Mrs Sutton will provide support for this class.

Year 1: will use Chestnuts as normal with Mr Ansermoz & Ms Robbins.

Year 6: will use Redwoods as normal with Ms Clarke and Mrs Fraser.

Critical Key worker children: will use the hall as their base for the day. Mrs Hawling & Mrs Minifie will teach on their usual days and Miss Summerhayes will provide support for this class.

There may be circumstances where this has to change.

I know that you are all well aware of the size of our school and the classrooms. Clearly, we cannot sit 15 children in a class 2 metres apart. We will, however, have the tables more distanced than normal. Our aim is to socially distance groups of children that are in school. This will happen through a carefully planned and staggered timetable to ensure that Bearnes remains a place where children are nurtured.

Those children who do not return to school will still be able to access learning via SeeSaw

Equipment

We would like to ask all parents to ensure that children do not bring any toys, pens/pencils or stationery to school. Our aim is to minimise the potential spread of infection between us. For the same reason we will not be sending reading books home. Children are encouraged to bring a named water bottle to school and return their PE kit to their peg.

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principals: **good hygiene practices (handwashing and respiratory hygiene); regular cleaning; minimising contact and mixing, and avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms.**

Good hygiene practices (handwashing and respiratory hygiene)

These are the measures school will take to ensure good hygiene for all those who attend (children and staff):

- Regular, explicit teaching on handwashing and respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it)
- Regular expectation of handwashing – before entry and exit to the building, before and after eating, after toileting and at other key points during the day
- Staff will monitor handwashing to ensure good practice
- Anti-bacterial gel stations are set up in the office, hall and on teacher's desks – children will also be supported to wash hands in the bathrooms whenever possible
- Posters will be placed around school to remind children
- Tissues will be available in all school locations for easy access. Where this is not possible coughing/sneezing into an elbow will be encouraged
- Staff will follow the same principles to model good practice to the children and to protect themselves

I strongly encourage all parents to teach and support good hygiene practices at home now, regardless of when your child returns to school. Excellent resources to help you can be found on the e-bug website (<https://www.e-bug.eu/>) or from Public Health England (PHE) (<https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools>).

Cleaning

A thorough deep clean of the school has already taken place during closure and on return, an enhanced schedule of cleaning has been arranged. This includes:

- Staff maintaining a cleaning schedule throughout the school day, including cleaning and sanitising often used surfaces (e.g. door handles)
- Any equipment used by a group of children will be sanitised before another group uses it (e.g. laptops, sports equipment)
- The school and classrooms will be kept clear, tidy and clutter-free to allow for thorough cleaning after school
- An enhanced clean will take place each day after school that includes cleaning and disinfecting all surfaces, commonly touched items (e.g. door handles, hand rails) and ensuring any waste is removed, amongst other measures

In accordance with government guidelines, children will not be permitted to wear a face mask.

Attendance

I want to reassure you that we won't be pressuring parents to send their children to school – you know what's best for your child's health and wellbeing and that of your family. The guidelines for parents indicate that there is no penalty for not sending your child to school, and that school's attendance figures will not be judged over this period by OFSTED.

We ask that you help us to stick to these guidelines in order that our school community remains as safe as possible. We value the good communication we have with you all and appreciate that this will be a little different at the moment. We will endeavour to still provide you with support and answer any queries.

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I hope this gives you the reassurance you may need to decide about your child returning to school and we will be asking you to tell us whether or not they will be attending. Please click this link and complete the form for each child by **Wednesday 27th May 2020**:

Kind regards and best wishes to you all,

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