



Bernards Heath Infant and Nursery School

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Head: Mrs H. Rimmer

Friday 24th July, 2020

September 2020 – Update 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please make sure you read this letter fully. It covers everything you need to know about your child's return to school.

Everything included here is based on the guidance we have received so far. As the guidance updates and changes are made, this plan may need to be adapted. We will remind you of all of this information again, including any changes, just before the start of term.

I echo the exact same sentiment we shared ahead of our opening on Monday 1st June. School will undoubtedly look different, but it isn't the building or the early morning routines that create the atmosphere; it's the people. We will manage looking different, but Bernards Heath will feel (after a few days of getting used to it) just like the school you remember.

We will be split into 'bubbles' (please see attached). Every effort has been made to ensure the bubbles will not mix, share resources or play together. They can certainly wave and this will be encouraged!

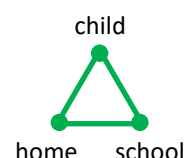
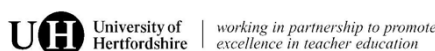
Social Distancing – The adults in each bubble, and those working elsewhere around school, will adhere to stringent social distancing measures. As will you, whenever you are on site to drop off/collect. However, the Department for Education (DfE) has been clear that we cannot expect our children to socially distance within their bubble.

Government has been clear that young children cannot be expected to remain 2m apart, and in deciding to bring children back into school government has recognised this.

The **essential measures** we will take (from Gov.uk – [Guidance for full opening: schools](#)):

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practical

Explaining this to young children – Mr Fisher has made a slideshow which we will share with you before returning to school. Adults at school will talk with the children about this every day. It also gives you a chance to talk about it together at home. It covers everything from our school rules, handwashing routines



and what an adult will look like when they are wearing PPE.

Risk Assessment – We have completed a comprehensive update to our Risk Assessment in preparation for full opening. Over the summer we have a few more actions to complete and then we will share this document with you, for your information.

Everything else is outlined below.

| Medical Needs and COVID-19 | |
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| Care Plans | <p>If your child already has a care plan for their medical needs, Miss Earnshaw will have been in touch to review this with you. It is <i>your responsibility</i> to share all underlying health needs your child has.</p> <p>If you receive any updated medical advice from your child’s health professionals re: COVID-19, this must be shared with us before the first day of term.</p> <p>It is also <i>your responsibility</i> to ensure your child has all relevant medication with them on the first day of term. If you arrive to school without this (for example, piriton/an inhaler/an epi-pen) you will need to take your child home with you to collect it. We cannot have your child at school without all of the medication they need.</p> |
| Emergency Contacts | <p>You must ensure your child has parents/carers or emergency contacts who are available, by telephone, throughout every school day. If we cannot get through to a child’s parent or carer, we will call your emergency contacts. Please ensure that these contacts are people who can get to school immediately and are not family members based in another part of the country. Class friends may be able to help you in case of an emergency.</p> |
| Clinically Extremely Vulnerable | <p>This applies to those who were previously shielding and received a letter from the NHS or their health professional. Shielding for those who are extremely clinically vulnerable pauses on 1st August (subject to continued decline in transmission) and the Government will no longer be advising these individuals shield. Some individuals under the care of specialist health professionals may need to discuss care at their next planned clinical appointment, before returning. Those pupils <i>unable</i> to attend school because they are following clinical and/or Public Health advice (e.g. a letter from their consultant) will be provided with remote education. School should be made aware of this as soon as possible.</p> |
| Poorly | <p>At this time you must not send your child to school if they are poorly <i>in any way</i>. Coughs/colds/sore throats included. Any children who arrive unwell or become unwell during the day will be supervised outside of their bubble until you arrive to collect them.</p> <p>Typically, families may drop off and tell us their child has been given a dose of Calpol and school agree to monitor their wellbeing throughout the day. Next term, this will not be acceptable as the guidance clearly advises that anyone who is poorly must stay at home.</p> |
| COVID-19 Symptoms | <p>Anyone who becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature (37.8 or above), or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must stay at (or be sent) home and advised to follow ‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance , which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should arrange to have a test https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.</p> <p>This means, if we are sending home a child who has become unwell with any of the above</p> |

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| | <p>symptoms, we will also be sending home their siblings too, until we receive confirmation of a negative test result.</p> <p>If your child did become poorly with COVID-19 symptoms whilst on the school site, they would be isolated and you would be called to collect them immediately.</p> |
| Testing for COVID-19 | <p>In order to operate a full opening, we must engage with NHS Test and Trace. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works</p> |
| PPE | <p>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn by staff who are dealing with a possible case of CV (or anyone displaying symptoms), cleaning an area where anyone with symptoms has been or for any intimate care. Intimate care is defined as nappy changing or changing a child who has had an accident and therefore there is risk of coming into contact with bodily fluids. If a child has had an accident but manages themselves (this will depend on their level of independence) and simply needs clean/dry clothes passed to them and some moral support, this is not classified as intimate care.</p> <p>You may see staff who choose to wear face coverings. This is personal choice and will be due to their own unique set of circumstances. This will be fully supported by the school.</p> |
| First Aid | <p>Usual PPE will be worn for basic first aid (adults wear gloves when cleaning cuts and grazes). To avoid the need for the Medical Room, each class will have their own First Aid Kit.</p> |
| Your child's day | |
| Attendance | <p>From September, school attendance is mandatory. Please see our Attendance Policy. Any request for leave of absence should be made via the school office and will be discussed with the Head teacher. Here is an extract from our policy with is shared with Bernards Heath Junior School - <i>Head Teachers will not grant any leave during term time unless there are exceptional and unavoidable circumstances. There are 13 weeks of school holidays during the year. The schools expect parents to take holidays during these periods. Term time is not the appropriate time to take a family holiday. This reflects both national and county policy.</i></p> <p>If a child exceeds the number of unauthorised absences, as outlined in our policy, the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, is included in our policy. Please read this carefully.</p> |
| Deploying support staff / outside agencies | <p>Taken from the guidance – <i>Schools should ensure that appropriate support is made available for pupils with SEND.</i> This means we are able to begin small group interventions and welcome back external agencies such as Speech and Language Therapists, in order to support children's learning and progress.</p> <p>All visitors will comply with our school protocol and those leading interventions will take the necessary steps to minimise contact wherever possible – this may mean that an adult leading an intervention with your child could be wearing a face shield or be working at a distance.</p> |
| Supply Teachers | <p>Schools can engage supply teachers during this period.</p> |
| Lunch | <p>Children in FS2 – Y2 - You do not need to pay for or provide your child's lunch.</p> <p>Due to the circumstances next term, children will continue to have their lunches delivered to their classrooms (the hall/dining room will not be used). This means we have adapted the menu (please see attached). From September the children will choose their lunch at school each day, with support from the adults in their classroom.</p> |

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| | <p>There will be a warm option 3 days a weeks. The food arrives in the style of ‘street food’ for example, a pizza wrap will be wrapped in foil alongside a small bag of veggie sticks, some fruit and a dessert, such as a biscuit.</p> <p>When there isn’t a warm food option the menu will include choices of filling for a roll in the style of a school-prepared packed lunch (a roll, fruit snack, cucumber/carrot sticks, and biscuit).</p> <p>If you would like to send in a home packed lunch instead, please ensure you adhere to our Home Prepared Packed Lunch Policy. In order to support those with allergies, packed lunches must not contain egg or nuts.</p> |
| Outdoor play | Each bubble has their own designated outside space for use throughout the day. Lunch time play will be supported by class Midday Supervisory Assistants (MSAs). |
| Snack | The daily fruit/veg deliveries, provided by the Government, have not be confirmed to return at the start of term. Until they do, please send your child to school with a piece of fresh fruit – not fruit bars/fruit roll-ups/packets of yoghurt covered fruit/breakfast bars. Just an apple/banana/pear for their snack. |
| Water-bottle | Your child must have their own water bottle every day. This must be CLEARLY marked with their name. |
| Uniform | Full school uniform (from page 12 in the linked document) is expected, every day of the week. |
| Washing Uniform | There have been reports of washing uniform daily at 60 degrees – this is not necessary. There is no need for anything other than normal personal hygiene and washing of clothes following a day in a school. |
| Book-bag | We have been asked to limit resources coming to and from school (show and tell items included) however, children should now bring their book-bag, water bottle and their coat/sunhat. |
| Reading Books | Each class will have a selection of reading books which will begin to come home. These will be shared by others in their class or within their bubble. When books between classes are rotated, there will be a period of 48 hours where they must be quarantined. |
| | FS2, early next term we will be sharing lots more information on reading at home. |
| Coming to and from school | |
| One adult | We have been advised that only one adult must arrive to drop off or collect their child. This avoids unnecessary congestion. |
| On foot | Guidance strongly recommends walking to and from school wherever possible. |
| One-way | <p>Please see our maps and follow the instructions provided. We will be there to help you.</p> <p>If you are dropping off or collecting more than one child, it is still vital that you keep to our one-way system. This may mean leaving the school site and returning via a separate gate. Whilst this may be inconvenient, it is necessary and ensures we are working together to keep everybody safe.</p> |
| Being on time | <p>Please ensure you arrive promptly at your child’s start time. The process of managing multiple start times means we need to combine our efforts to ensure we can keep everybody safe. <i>Arriving late is disruptive to your child, their class and our staff.</i></p> <p>If you arrive later than 9:05am, please report to the office.</p> |
| Play Equipment | Please ensure your child, and their younger siblings, are holding your hand throughout the time spent on the school site. In order to protect our bubbles, no outside equipment can be touched/played with/climbed on. |

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| Gathering | Arriving and departing school should feel like you're on a conveyor belt. In order to keep everybody safe, the line must keep moving. Groups cannot gather on the playground or outside the school gates. If the system for collecting your class involves lining up, please respect social distancing measures at all times. Please wait until you are outside of the school gates before sharing out after school snacks. |
| Other | |
| Wrap-around care | Our wrap-around care can be booked via your SchoolGateway app. The provision for children will be altered under the current circumstances and children will remain with friends from their bubble. The hall will be divided into sections and will be well ventilated. Children will eat, play and share resources with friends from their bubble but will easily be able to chat and wave to their friends or siblings across the hall. |
| Dropping off and Collecting from Wrap-around care | To drop off at Breakfast Club, families will need to wait on the yellow markings leading up to the school office. A member of our team will come out and meet you and your child there. You will then exit through the main playground and out of the Heartwood Side Gate. *Upper Culver Road gate will not be open for Breakfast Club drop-off* In September we will share further details about collecting from after school childcare. This system will minimise the need for families to come into the school building – more details to follow. |
| Visitors | School remains closed to all visitors. This includes all volunteers. We will update you on this as soon as we are able to. |
| Office | The school office remains closed. To protect our staff, all communication continues to be via phone call or email. The one-way system at drop off may not enable you to walk down to the office. On your route, there will be a clearly marked box for returning any paperwork. |
| After School Activity Clubs | We will not be offering after-school activity clubs for the first half-term. If we are able, after school clubs may be able to return for Year 1 and 2 for the second half of term – we will update you when we can. FS2 are invited to clubs (3:15-4:15pm) from January. |

I am sure you can understand that every single measure we have put in place, is there for the protection of our staff and your children. We truly look forward to seeing you all in September and will do our very best to make everything you have read here runs smoothly for all of us.

It has been a long time since we have had everybody on the playground and it will be the first time we operate in this way, with this number of families to accommodate. If some of the systems need amending, we will adapt them as necessary and make sure you are aware of the changes. Please bear with us as we navigate this together.

Finally, please remember, everything included here is based on current guidance and therefore is **subject to change** depending on further guidance we receive towards the end of August.

We will be in touch again before the start of term.

With very best wishes for your summer,

Miss Woolfson

Acting Head teacher