Bernards Heath Infant and Nursery School

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Head: Mrs H. Rimmer

Friday 8th May, 2026

Foundation Stage 1 – Transition 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Bernards Heath! We are delighted that your child will soon be joining us in Foundation Stage 1 (Nursery). We will be making the most of every opportunity to ensure the best possible transition for you and your child.

You have already completed your admission form; the next step is for you is to complete the 'Getting to know your child' form (you can return this via email or a printed copy to our school office) and the following forms online by **Friday 15th May.** Each form is relevant for every family – please ensure you complete them fully.

- Early Years Funding
- Photograph/Video Consent and Permission Form

We are experts at managing transition for young children – it is what we do, extremely successfully, year after year. Our team have planned many creative ways in which we will learn about your children and they will learn about us too.

Alongside plenty of opportunities to meet and play together in person, a considerable amount of our contact over the coming months will be via email and pre-recorded videos for you to watch again and again. We will be utilising content from our YouTube channel to ensure your children are very well prepared for life at Bernards Heath.

Important dates for your diary –

Event	Date	Time	Which children are invited to which session?
Stay and Play – 1 adult accompanies each child to join us in new Heath Class* to play	Wednesday 3rd June	9.10-9.40am	30 hours
		9.50-10.20am	AM, All Day A and All Day B
** Heath Class will be moving to Verulam Class in September 2026, but will continue to be called Heath Class*			

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We are committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and we strictly adhere to the provisions of all relevant Data Protection Legislation, including GDPR, ensuring all personal data is handled in line with the principles outlined in the School's Data Protection Policy. Information about the types, use and retention of personal data we collect can be found on our website under Statutory Information - Data Protection Policy.

Stay and Play – 1 adult accompanies each child to join us in new Heath Class to play	Tuesday 9th June	9.10-9.40am	30 hours
		9.50-10.20am	AM, All Day A and All Day B
Stay and Play – parents/carers may choose to **leave their child for this 3rd visit** to meet Mrs Rimmer in the hall Please bring your child's birth certificate on this date	Monday 22nd June	9.10-9.40am	30 hours *Adults to the hall to meet Mrs Rimmer*
		9.50-10.20am	AM, All Day A and All Day B *Adults to the hall to meet Mrs Rimmer*
Home Visit Day	Thursday 9th July	Home or school will identify children who would benefit from a home visit on top of the Stay-and-Play sessions. We endeavor to carry out as many visits as we can on this date - we'll be in touch.	

Stay and Play – You are welcome to attend all 3 sessions, and attending as many as you can will be great. The last Stay and Play is important as Mrs Rimmer talks to you about what to expect when your child attends Heath Class. These sessions will reduce the pressure on staff attempting to visit 30+ new children in their homes and settings and instead means you come to us. Staff will chat to you as your children become familiar with the Nursery. It's important for us to know as much as we can about your child as it ensures we manage their transition as well as possible – *Do they sleep well? Do they eat a variety of foods? What do they like to play with? How do they learn? What helps them to settle?* Please note, we do only have space for 1 adult per child.

Home Visit Day – As outlined in the table above. If there are specific reasons you can see your child would benefit from a Home Visit, for example, they have never been to pre-school, they have never been away from you, they struggle with transitions, they find it difficult to make new relationships, then please let us know. We may also identify children during the Stay and Play sessions who would benefit from a Home Visit and will make suitable arrangements to come and visit you.

Autumn Term

All children join FS1 at Bernards Heath at the start of the autumn term in September. We have a very effective phased transition to Nursery which enables the children to gain confidence in their new routine and environment; this takes place during the first days of the autumn term. They will begin their transition from Thursday 3rd September. All children will be accessing their full sessions during the week beginning Monday 15th September – more details to follow.

The title of this email is – **FS1 Transition 1**. Over the coming weeks we will be in touch with Transition 2/3/4 and so on. This will enable you to search your emails and quickly locate all the information you need. The transition emails will often include information for parents and carers but will also be videos/photos/updates aimed directly at your children.

We look forward to sharing videos over the coming weeks, introducing the children to the Learning Heroes, our School Poem and eventually the grown-ups in their new classroom. For now, go for lots of walks along

Sandridge Road, peek through our gates and visit our website. Go to class blogs and take a look at Heath Class to see what our Nursery children have been learning.

Wrap-around childcare

Lastly, families are often eager to book their places in our wrap-around childcare in time for the start of the new term – Breakfast Club and After School Childcare. Nursery children are able to book from the week beginning **Monday 14th September** following their Transition Week. In order to book your place, you will need to download the School Gateway app – please find instructions attached to help you with this. Everything you need to know about Bernards Heath Childcare is contained in our fact sheet – attached.

In summary – things you need to do –

- Complete the 'Getting to know your child' form by Friday 15th May
- Complete the 2 forms (linked above) online by Friday 15th May
- Join us for the 3 Stay and Play sessions
- Download the School Gateway app and book your Breakfast Club/After School Childcare

We are pleased and proud to welcome you to Bernards Heath and look forward to getting to know you, your children and your family.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Pinkham

Heath Class Teacher