



Banstead Infant School
The Horseshoe
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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have finally reached the end of term, which I can only describe as a bittersweet feeling. Our Banstead Infant School community has stayed strong through this extremely difficult time and our families have been incredibly resilient with the challenges they have faced. I am pleased to say that our plans and risk assessments to invite all our children back in September have been agreed by the trust. Therefore, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be starting back in school on Thursday 3rd September, with our new Reception children spending an hour during the day in their new classes.

I am setting out in this letter our current plans for September. Updated guidance from the Government, PHE and other scientific advisers is being published regularly and may cause us to review plans between now and September. Any increases of Covid-19 amongst our community/region may also impact our ability to reopen the school. **Therefore it is important to understand that the plans set out in this letter may be subject to change.**

Attendance

Attendance will be mandatory from the start of the new school year. The government has clearly set out that the usual rules for attendance will be reinstated from September, including:

1. Parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil and they are of compulsory school age;
2. Schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
3. The availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.
4. If your child remains under the care of a specialist health care professional, you should discuss their care before returning to school in September, and talk to your school about the situation. Where children are not able to attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, they will not be penalised.

Arrival and Collection

- We advise walking to school where possible
- Please ensure that you use the markers when lining up to socially distance yourselves
- We advise that only one parent drops off and collects
- Children will be dropped off at the fire exit (outside door) of their allocated classroom and collected from the same door
- Parents will NOT be allowed to enter the school building under any circumstances. The office will be open for one adult at a time if parents have information to share or medicines to deliver or collect
- There will be a one way system in place around the outside of the school and up half of the car drive
- PHE advice is that schools should not routinely take the temperatures of students or staff as this is not a reliable means of identifying those with Covid-19

Arrival and Collection times will be as follows:

- Reception have varying visits and start times up until Thursday 17th September. From Friday 18th September it will be **8:40am** and the collection time will be **3:10pm** (all other times were set out in your welcome pack or recent email communications)
- Year 1 arrival time will be **8:50am** and collection time will be **3:20pm**
- Year 2 arrival time will be **9:00am** and collection time will be **3:30pm**
- If you have siblings in 2 different year groups then both children's start time will be **8:50am** and the collection time will be **3:20pm**

It is vitally important that you stick to your arrival and collection times to avoid an unnecessary amount of adults and children congregating around the school at the same time.

Social distancing and minimising contact

- Following government guidance, we have planned for groups of children to remain in class bubbles of 30. This will ensure that we can deliver a broad and balanced curriculum whilst limiting the number of children and staff that will need to isolate if there is a confirmed case.
- The groups will always be kept together and won't be able to mix with other groups.
- The only exception to this will be for Reception, where the same children from more than one class can mix in the outside learning area. This is to ensure that we can offer a full EYFS curriculum whilst continuing to minimise risk.
- We will be considering the layout of classroom furniture, use of buildings and timetabling to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff.

Hand and Respiratory Hygiene

Everyone at school will continue to wash their hands with soap and water more often than usual during the school day, especially:

- On arrival and before leaving
- Before and after eating
- After activities outside
- After using the toilet
- After sneezing or coughing

We will continue to adopt the CATCH IT, KILL IT, BIN IT regime:

- Sneeze or cough into a tissue, dispose of and wash your hands
- Where this is not possible, sneeze/cough into the crook of your elbow
- Every classroom has a lidded bin to dispose of used tissues

The children will be reminded about these routines regularly and they will be discussed further in Citizenship lessons.

Lunchtimes

- Our catering company will continue to provide hot meals
- During lunch children will eat together in their year group in the hall, but sat in their classes with a 2m distance between the other classes
- The lunch tables and seats will be cleaned between sittings
- Lunchtimes will be staggered and children will be kept in their classes and on different playgrounds
- In the playground children will be gently reminded about social distancing, but we are aware that it is very difficult for younger children to adhere to this
- If a child falls over or has an accident, we will deal with this in the usual nurturing way, whilst ensuring the child and adult are keeping safe.



Uniform and Bags

- Children **WILL** be required to wear school uniform
- It is recommended that children limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day, to essentials such as bags, book bags, lunchboxes, water bottles and outdoor clothing
- PE kits will not be required in school to start with, however, we will monitor the guidance and keep you updated. Children will still be participating in physical activities
- Books can be taken home, but when they are returned to school they will be left for 3 days between uses.

Minimising contact with those who are unwell

Children, staff and others **MUST** stay at home if they have symptoms, including:

- High temperature (38C or above)
- New continuous cough
- Loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell

If a child or member of staff displays symptoms at school

We will:

- Isolate any children or staff that develop symptoms at school in a dedicated isolation room.
- Send them home as soon as possible and follow the guidance here: [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)
- Ask them to self-isolate at home for at least 7 days
- Ask them to arrange for a test to see if they have Covid-19
- Ask them to ensure that all members of their household (including siblings) self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

- We have been advised that extra-curricular school clubs should not recommence in September, but we will continue to keep this under review.

I appreciate this is a lot of information to take in, especially if you are new to the school. I will continue to keep you updated with any further changes or information that is relevant to our full opening in September.

I want to finish by thanking you for all your support with the changes we have made and will continue to make to keep our school community safe. I hope you all have a lovely summer and I am looking forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Yours sincerely



Mr Burbidge

