



“Together We THRIVE”



2nd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reopening of school to all pupils from Monday March 8th 2021

In light of the announcement from the Prime Minister about the reopening of schools to all pupils from 8th March, I wanted to let you know that we are well underway with our plans to welcome the children back to school.

Over the last few days, we have been working through the updated guidance from the Department for Education to review and update our risk assessment and confirm the plan on how we will support the children to come back to school in a safe and positive way.

I encourage you to try and keep your child focused on the remote learning that will be set by the teachers until we come back to school, so that they come back ready to learn. You have been doing a fantastic job of supporting your children with their learning at home and I do understand that this has not been easy for you. I am so proud of our whole school community and the way that everyone has worked together to provide remote learning for our children.

When school reopens, we will focus on reconnecting the children with our expectations, values and learning behaviours as well as reviewing their learning so that teachers know how they can best support all the children in the future.

We will continue with many of the routines, rules and safety measures that we had in place when all of the children returned in September.

The children will continue to be organised as they were last term and will remain in their class or year bubbles. There may also be occasions when the children will be in Extended Bubbles for instance, when attending Before and After School clubs. The extended bubbles will be :

Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2

Year 3 and 4

Year 5 and 6

Children will share indoor spaces with the children in their bubble and will have access to allocated toilets/hygiene areas. Class sizes (bubbles) will be as normal (up to 30 children) and whilst in class the children will sit facing the front. The children will continue to have individual resources such as pencils, rulers etc. which will not be shared with any other pupil.

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When outside the children will not mix with any other bubble, and the children will be encouraged to social distance. There will not be any large social gatherings such as assemblies.

PPE and Rapid Flow Tests

All staff have been undertaking Rapid Flow Tests twice weekly and wearing face masks since January and will continue to do so when everyone returns. School staff have been provided with additional PPE (gloves, masks, aprons, and visor) for their personal care and will use it for administering first aid etc.

Primary age children are not required to wear face coverings to school. However, if you wish for your child to also wear a mask during any part of the school day please advise your child's class teacher. Please ensure that your child understands how to put on, wear, take off and store their mask correctly.

Visitors on site

To reduce the number of people on site we are limiting visitors. This will mean that parents will still not be allowed to enter the school grounds unless invited to do so by a member of staff. The children will be dropped off and collected from allocated gates (see below). If you wish to speak with the office or your child's class teacher we ask you to use Class Dojo, email or the telephone. If it is an emergency then you are able to go the main entrance where the office staff will try their best to help you.

School visits and extra curriculum Clubs

In line with Government guidance, the school does not intend to plan any visits in the first part of the summer term but will review the situation going forward. We will communicate any decisions to you after May half term. Unfortunately, this will mean that the Year 5 trip to PGL will now be delayed until Summer Term 2022.

Some extra curriculum clubs run by staff members will continue in school but will be organised to ensure that children do not mix between their Bubbles. This will mean that fewer clubs may be available and some year groups may be prioritised.

To reduce the number of visitors on site, clubs that involve outside agencies may not occur initially or may be organised in a slightly different way. This will again be reviewed as restrictions are relaxed over the summer term.

Lunch and Break time

For the last few weeks of this term Caterlink will provide a packed lunch for those that wish to order and purchase one. However, after Easter we will be able to offer hot meals. More details will be given nearer the time.

Free School meals and Universal Free School meals provision will also need to be ordered via the class teacher in the morning to ensure the correct quantity have been prepared. Of course, if you wish to provide your child with their own packed lunch that is fine but please ensure that it follows the schools usual healthy packed lunch guidelines. It would be easier if

lunches were provided in disposable packaging but if not possible please ensure all lunch boxes/bags are clearly named on the outside. Please also remember to provide your child with a named water bottle.

The children will eat in their classrooms and then have some time outside. The school will stagger the school lunch hour to ensure that Bubbles do not mix in the outside areas.

Morning break will also be staggered and each bubble will have an allocated outside area to use. The children in Key Stage 2 are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack for break time, however, fruit will be provided for children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2.

Please remind your children not to share any food or drink that they bring into school.

Staggered Arrival and Collection Times

To reduce congestion at the beginning and end of the school day, we have made a few alterations to the times published in September.

We are aware that for families with children in one of more year groups this may be little tricky but hope that you will understand the need and therefore follow the procedures as set out below.

Morning Drop off

Foundation Stage	8.55 arrival	Foundation Stage entrance through Dove Road Gate and exit through Trim Trail Gate. (Parents to use one way system through Foundation Stage outside area)
Year 1 and Year 2	8.50 arrival	Children only, to enter through Dove Road entrance
Year 3 and Year 4	8.45 arrival	Children only, to enter through Waveney Green Gate
Year 5 and Year 6	8.40 arrival	Children only, to enter through Staff Carpark Gate

When entering the school children will be directed straight to a sink where they will be required to wash their hands before sitting down at their desk. All children will then have their temperature taken.

Afternoon collection

Foundation Stage	15.25 collection	Parents to wait by the Dove Road Gate near Foundation Stage and staff will bring children to exit through the Trim Trail Gate.
Year 1	15.15 collection	Parents to wait outside Dove Road Gate near Foundation Stage where staff will bring the children down to release. Please queue single file to the school side.
Year 2	15.20 collection	Parents to wait outside Dove Road Gate near Foundation Stage where staff will bring the children down to release. Please queue single file to the residential side.

Year 3	15.20 collection	Parents to wait outside Waveney Green gate where staff will bring the children down to release. Please queue single file down the pathway – left of gate.
Year 4	15.25 collection	Parents to wait outside Waveney Green gate where staff will bring the children down to release. Please queue single file up the pathway – right of gate.
Year 5 and Year 6	15.30 collection	Parents to wait outside Staff Carpark gate where staff will bring the children down to release. Year 5 parents please queue single file against wall of school house. Year 6 parents please queue single file against the fence and wall in front of the car park.

Please note, children will have washed their hands prior to leaving the school.

If your child travels to and from school on public or local authority transport, including taxis, please inform the school and ensure you have read Section 2 from the most recent government guidelines. *(Please see the link at the bottom of the page)*

Please note: The children will be required to wear a mask when travelling in a taxi or on public transport.

To ensure minimum time is taken from the school day, there is only 5 minutes between the timings and therefore it is important that children are punctual. If for any reason your child is late and has missed the time slot for their entrance then please come to the front entrance to avoid any mixing of Bubbles.

Parents/carers are **still** required to keep themselves and their children 2m apart from others when waiting for the beginning and end of the school day. The allocated queuing areas used last term will still be made clear outside the school and we ask you to adhere to these. Please also ensure that only 1 parent or carer completes the school run and **wears a mask when waiting.**

We are aware that the local authority has opened all parks and playing equipment but we ask you to **not allow** your children to play on the Waveney Green equipment prior to them entering school. We would also recommend that this is also avoided after school, as social distancing may be compromised.

Home/school communication

Parents and carers can continue to communicate directly to the class teacher either through Class Dojo or class email.

Parentmail will continue to be used to communicate whole school information as well as the website and social media. Please let the office know if you have changed any emails or phone numbers since Christmas.

Before School and After School Club.

We are planning for these clubs to continue as DfE guidance is supporting this and the clubs will run from the hall just as it was last term. We will assume your requirements for each day will be the same as they were back in December. Please contact the office as soon as possible if this is not the case.

Digital Devices

During the lockdown some families were loaned a digital device to enable the children to complete remote learning. Please can these be returned to school on Monday 8th March so that they are available to be used in the classrooms. All devices returned will be quarantined before being redistributed to classes.

School Uniform

We will be expecting the children to return to school in uniform but understand that some of them may have outgrown some items. Please let you child's teacher know if this is causing any concern. In addition, after the Easter Holidays we will be changing to summer uniform.

We do have a number of good condition second hand uniform items available if required. Please email liz.stockton@brickhillprimary.co.uk if you we can be of any assistance in kitting out your growing children.

Procedures for dealing with symptoms or confirmed case(s) of Covid-19

The school has a very clear plan as part of our risk assessment about the management of a child or a staff member displaying symptoms and the implications for the school, staff, pupils and premises. This has been developed in line with Public Health England and the Government guidance.

However, if a member of staff or child is presenting symptoms in school the following procedures will be followed.

The most common symptoms of Covid-19 are recent onset of a new continuous cough, or high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell.

The member of staff will be asked to leave the site and request a COVID-19 test and self-isolate. The staff member will only return to work following a negative test result or the required isolation period has passed and they are in full health.

If a child presents the above symptoms then they will be taken to a designated isolation area within the school, where they are able to wait safely until the parent/carer has arrived to collect them. The child will then be brought to the main reception area to meet their parents. A member of staff wearing PPE will be with the child at all times. The child must then remain in isolation at home for at least 10 days from when the symptoms started.

Parents of children within a class bubble where a member of staff or child has presented symptoms will be informed and asked to be vigilant. However, children should continue to attend school ensuring all hygiene and social distancing measure are adhered to.

If there is a positive case of Covid-19 then the school will follow the advice of the Public Health England, which would likely result in all staff and children within a bubble being sent home for 10 days isolation and all areas in the school accessed by the Bubble deep cleaned.

Further details on government guidance can be found here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Thank you all for the commitment and support you have shown. Your efforts with distance learning has helped ensure that your child has retained some of those essential skills needed for the return to academic life. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank those parents who made the difficult choice to send their children in to school.

In addition, we have really appreciated your messages and show of support throughout this very difficult time and I am sure you will agree that the staff at Brickhill Primary have been amazing. I am very proud of what we have all achieved together.

Finally, I cannot explain how excited we are to be seeing all the children back and we are looking forward to a wonderful and hopefully uninterrupted rest of the academic year.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with either myself or your childs' class teacher.

Kind Regards



Debbie Wilson
Head teacher