



Burlington Infant & Nursery School

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Headteacher: Mrs S Yay-Walker BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Returning to school on 8th March 2021

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. Following the government's announcement on Monday 22nd February, **I am pleased to confirm the following plans for the full reopening of the school on Monday 8th March, when all children must return to school.**

These plans are correct as of Friday 26th February, and are based on the most recent government guidance available.

The DfE guidance released on 22nd February stipulates that:

School attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from 8 March.

The usual rules on school attendance apply, including:

- **parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school (where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age)**
- **the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct**

We understand that this may cause some anxiety for those of you who have chosen to keep your children at home during lockdown. We would like to share the safety measures that we will be putting in place in order to alleviate some of your concerns, and to give you an idea of what the school will look like when it reopens. It is important that you share this with your child prior to returning to school. I will give you as much detail as possible to help you and your child gain a full understanding of how the school will look and feel, so that you are well prepared for the start of term. Much of this will be familiar to you and your child from the Autumn term arrangements.

The following is a list of important actions for parents to take and the measures that we are taking:



COVID-19: IMPORTANT ACTIONS

DO NOT bring your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- A new consistent or continuous cough
- A high temperature (we are sending children/staff home to be tested if over 37.5 degrees)
- A loss/change of taste and/or smell

If your child has any of the above symptoms, YOU MUST:

- Book a test immediately
- Inform the school to confirm a test has been booked
- Inform the school of the test results
- Your child and everyone in your household must self-isolate until you get a negative result

If your child has a temperature, please do not give them Calpol and bring them into school.

DO NOT bring your child to school if anyone in your household has any of the following symptoms:

- A new consistent or continuous cough
- A high temperature (above 37.5 degrees)
- A loss/change of taste and/or smell

If anyone in your household has any of the above symptoms:

- They must book a test immediately
- Everyone in the house must self-isolate
- You must Inform the school of the test result

If a positive test result is received:

- You must Inform the school immediately
- The infected person must self-isolate for 10 days
- Everyone else in the house must self-isolate for 10 days

If you are unsure about any symptoms your child may have, please speak to the school office before bringing them into school.

In the event that someone in the class develops symptoms of COVID-19

If a child/member of staff or their families display symptoms of COVID-19:

- The child/member of staff will be sent home and get tested straight away (testing is a Government requirement)
- Class bubble remains open. Other children and staff can continue to come into school until the test results are confirmed
- **Important:** Parents MUST NOT administer Calpol (or similar medicine) before bringing their child to school to mask a high temperature.

If test is positive:

- The result must be shared with the school, and the school will share this information with parents and staff in the class
- **Class bubble is closed.** All staff and children from the class will be sent home and advised to follow the stay at home guidance (currently 10 days for all in bubble, 10 days for infected person, 10 days for infected person's household) - this will be recorded as Authorised Absence. All children must engage with online learning throughout the 10 days.

If test is negative

- The result must be shared with the school, and the school will share this information with parents and staff in the class.
- Class bubble stays open.
- The symptomatic staff or child returns only after they are well enough - no longer experiencing any symptoms.

Testing: There is a requirement that staff/children and their families displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 must be tested straight away. The test can be booked online:

<https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/test-type>

Symptoms: a new, continuous cough **OR** a high temperature (above 37.5 degrees) **OR** has a loss of **OR** a change in their normal sense of smell or taste (Anosmia).

Hand washing and respiratory hygiene

- Children will be asked to wash/sanitise their hands on arrival and frequently throughout the day for 20 seconds, and in particular:
 - On arrival to school
 - Before and after morning break
 - Before and after lunch time
 - We will continue to promote the "Catch it, bin it, kill it" approach for sneezing into tissues. Hands to be washed immediately after.

Enhanced cleaning arrangements

- Frequently touched surfaces such as taps, door handles and light switches will be cleaned and sanitized 2 times a day
- All equipment in the classrooms will be cleaned at the end of each day
- Continued daily cleaning in every classroom
- Toilets will be cleaned twice a day

Social Distancing

- Access to smaller communal areas will be limited - this includes the library and group rooms. Any spaces and equipment used in larger rooms will be wiped down at the end of the session.
- The number of contacts between children and staff will be minimised.
- Play equipment/resources will be allocated to each class for use at playtime and lunchtime, and will be wiped down after use.
- Whole school assemblies will continue virtually
- The playground will be zoned and classes will be allocated areas to play during break times and lunch time play. Year groups will be allocated separate playtimes.
- Each class will remain in its bubble whilst indoors and will not mix with children from other classes as far as possible.
- Water fountains have been turned off.
- Movement around the school will be limited to children's allocated classroom, toilets, halls, ICT suite and the playground.
- Parents/visitors should avoid coming into the school office/reception unless in an emergency (e.g. collecting sick children).
- All communications with the school office should be via email or phone.
- No reading mornings/reading den/reading in the hall.
- No school trips.
- No volunteers or non-essential visitors on site.

Lunchtimes

- Year 1 and 2 will have a separate allocated lunchtimes in the Great Hall
- Reception children will have lunch in the Infant Hall

Drop off and collection arrangements

- There will be a **one-way system** around the school site.
- Only one adult per household is permitted to drop off and collect children and parents should retain social distancing at all times.
- School staff will supervise gate and check points.
- **No scooters/bikes will be allowed on the infant site.**
- Parents should drop children and go - no waiting around on the school site.
- If parents want to speak to staff, please arrange a time after school - there is no capacity to speak to teachers in the mornings as this causes congestion. To keep everyone as safe as possible, we need to clear the site as quickly as possible.
- There will be staggered start and finish times to minimise large numbers on site
- **Entry gate:** Burlington Road (main) entrance for all parents.
- **Exit gate:** Blagdon Road gate

- Infant toilets will be closed at drop off and collection time – children can only access toilets through their own classrooms.
- To collect children, adults must arrive promptly and wait in waiting areas at the allocated time only.
- Parents must aim to arrive promptly for drop off and pick up at their allocated times (5 mins earlier would be sufficient) as we cannot accommodate large numbers of parents waiting around on the school site.
- **A timetable for 'Drop off and Collection Times' is attached - it is very important that you check the timings as there have been some changes. Please arrive promptly at the allocated times.**

Personal Protective Equipment and other arrangements

- All staff carry out a Lateral Flow Covid-19 Test every Wednesday and Sunday and report to the school and the DfE to monitor and prevent any asymptomatic staff attending school.
- All parents and visitors will be asked to wear a mask at all times whilst on the school site.
- All staff will wear a mask in communal areas of the school. Class staff will not wear masks in their 'class bubble', as clear communication is important when teaching.
- Some staff may wear a mask if they feel vulnerable and are in a 'high/moderate risk' group.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be worn by all first aiders attending to sick children, and adults and when providing personal care to children if needed.
- Governors and the Local Authority are also aware of our plans to reopen and we will be in regular contact with them throughout this process.

Items for each child to bring in each day

- A named water bottle
- A named packed lunch if they are not having a school lunch
- A warm waterproof coat with a hood (named)
- Children in Reception to Year 2 should wear school uniform every day other than on PE days. This includes a school book bag.
- Children should come dressed in their PE kits on the days they have PE. This should include plain grey/navy/black jogging bottoms and hoodie (see attachment).

I hope this letter has given you an idea of what school will look like and the measures we are taking. I also hope this has given you some reassurance that your child's safety has been carefully considered. As before, I will also send out a parent survey after the first 2 weeks to gauge how children are settling back in and how you are finding the updated social distancing arrangements from 8th March. Your feedback and patience would be greatly appreciated as we try our best to ensure the smoothest possible return.

We look forward to welcoming you and your children back on 8th March.

Best wishes,



Mrs S Yay-Walker

Headteacher