

Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

Jordan's Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading RG7 3LP
Tel: 0118 983 2332

Email : office@mrsblands.w-berks.sch.uk

Website: www.mrsblandsinfants.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Nisbet

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Williams

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find details of how the school will operate from 8th March to minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus at Mrs Bland's School. Our risk assessment remains largely the same as last term and will be available to view on the school website.

On the 8th March, we will be open to all year groups and attendance is compulsory. This letter provides you with detailed information regarding the full opening of Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School. Please read it in its entirety to ensure you and your child are fully informed of the measures we will have in place.

Arrival and Departure

Little Acorns and Acorns

- The nursery sessions will start at the usual time of 8.45am.
- We will be implementing a one in, one out system. An adult will be standing at the gate and one child will come in at a time. You can walk up to the nursery door with your child but will not be able to enter the nursery building. There will be markings on the ground outside the nursery, as we will need you to line up at a two metre distance from each other.
- Adults will need to wear face masks when coming on to the school grounds and whilst waiting in the queue to come into nursery.
- The morning nursery session will finish at 11.30am and the afternoon nursery session will finish at 3.15pm to allow the staff to have time for the cleaning that is now going to be required.

Reception and KS1

- Staggered drop and pick-up times will be in place to reduce social interaction and movement.
- Your child **must** arrive and depart during their allocated time slot (please note the change for Rowan Class):

Arrival times:

8.50-9.00am – Maple class enter via the Reception doors

8.50-9.00am – Birch class enter via the KS1 glass corridor

8.45-8.55am – Rowan class enter via the KS1 glass corridor

9.00-9.10am – Beech class enter via the Reception doors

9.00-9.10am – Cherry class enter via the KS1 glass corridor

9.00-9.10am – Hazel class enter via the gate next to Bumblebees

Departure times:

3.00-3.10pm – Maple class depart via the Reception doors

3.00-3.10pm – Birch class depart via the KS1 glass corridor

3.00-3.10pm – Rowan class depart from in front of the mural beside the KS1 doors

3.10-3.20pm – Beech class depart via the Reception doors

3.10-3.20pm – Cherry class depart via the KS1 glass corridor

3.10-3.20pm – Hazel class depart via the gate next to Bumblebees

- Please ensure that these timings are strictly followed and that you do not drop off or pick up any earlier or later than the time requested.
- The one-way system will continue to be in place in order that you are able to maintain distance from others.

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- Adults will need to wear face masks when coming on to the school grounds and whilst waiting in the queue to drop off/collect.

Classroom Organisation

- We have decided to have **class bubbles**. This means that the children will have contact with others in their class but will be kept separate from all other classes and year groups within school.
- In Nursery and Reception, the provision and the furniture will be arranged to accommodate the different areas in order to ensure there is enough space to for the children to move around and to purposefully interact with the resources and equipment.
- In Years 1 and 2, the desks will be forward-facing to ensure that the children are sat side by side and facing forwards.
- Each pupil will be allocated a desk and a set of resources for their sole use. These will be kept in a plastic wallet which will be cleaned at the end of each day.
- Soft furnishings (e.g. rugs, drapes, cushions etc.), soft toys and shared resources and toys that are hard to clean will continue to be out of use.

Social distancing

- The government guidance states that early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. It would be unrealistic for us to expect this of the children, however, we are going to put measures into place to minimise contact and mixing.
- Each year group bubble will be kept separate and will not interact.
- Break times and lunchtimes will be staggered.
- Each class bubble will have their own set of outdoor equipment to use during break times and lunch times.
- Whole school assemblies will not take place. Instead, daily assemblies will take place in the classrooms.

Uniform and Equipment

- All pupils should wear full school uniform.
- The children will have 2 sessions of PE a week so will need to bring in a PE kit at the start of the week and keep it in school until the end of the week in order that it can be washed.
- All of the children need to bring in a named water bottle as cups and spare bottles will not be available. Water only please – no squash.
- Every child will need to bring in with them a spare set of clothes and a hat as spare clothing will not be available, due to the level of washing/cleaning required.
- Children must not bring in any other items than those highlighted in this letter from home.

School meals

- Lunchtimes will be staggered to ensure bubbles do not mix.
- Each year group will have an allocated lunchtime slot in which they will be able to access the hall to eat their lunch.
- The children can choose to have a school dinner or to bring in a packed lunch.
- The school kitchen will be open to provide hot meals.
- The children will sit at the tables in the hall, side by side and all face the same direction.
- The tables and chairs will be cleaned between each sitting.

Cleaning and Hygiene

- As a school we will be following the COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance.

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- We ask that you ensure your child washes their hands before they leave home.
 - A member of staff will greet each child and ensure they wash their hands immediately upon arrival. The children are using a mild soap suitable for children.
 - Handwashing will be prioritised and supervised and will be established as a classroom routine. Bars of soap and disposable hand towels will be provided.
 - Classrooms will be well ventilated, so please ensure children have their school jumpers/cardigans and possibly vests under their school shirts.
 - There will be a strict cleaning regime in place throughout the day. Classroom based staff will be provided with a cleaning program and a daily cleaning checklist to complete as will the school cleaner who will be carrying out a rigorous cleaning routine at the end of the day.
 - Each class will have a bin with a lid on it for tissue waste which will be emptied regularly.
 - Personal Protective Equipment is not recommended by the government for use in school; however, there are exceptions to this general principle which we will be following. PPE will be used when staff are administering first aid and where a child requires personal care or if they show Covid symptoms.
 - We will not be providing PPE for the children.

First Aid and Suspected Cases

- Each class will have a member of staff within it who is first aid trained.
- Whilst administering first aid, staff will wear PPE.
- If someone develops symptoms of COVID-19 whilst in school, we will follow the guidelines set out in the government guidance.
- If a child shows symptoms, they will be isolated, and you will be contacted for immediate collection. Please ensure we have contact details for someone who would be able to collect promptly.
- Pupils who have tested positive for coronavirus must not attend school for least 10 days from the start of their symptoms and until their symptoms have resolved; or if asymptomatic, 7 days after their test date and until symptoms have resolved.
- If a member of a pupil's household tests positive for coronavirus the whole family bubble must isolate until the 10 days self-isolation period is over.
- Pupils who have someone in their family who has symptoms must not attend school until they have had a test and it is negative.
- If a case of COVID-19 IS confirmed, then all staff and pupils who have been working in that class will be sent home to self-isolate for 10 days after the last contact with the confirmed case.
- Once a child or family member showing symptoms has been tested and the results are negative, the text/email must be shown to the school office and children may return to school.

Teaching and Learning

- We will be offering a full and broad curriculum in which pupils will be taught all subjects as per the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Stage.

Offsite visits

- The government have advised that educational visits should not take place until they advise otherwise.

Visitors to the school site

- Access to the school site will be restricted to pupils and staff only.
- We request that you continue to contact the school by phone or email in the first instance and avoid visiting the main office.
- Visitors (including parents) will only be able to enter the site if they have a pre-arranged appointment.

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- On arrival, visitors will be informed of the site rules/protective measures in place.
 - Where face to face meetings are required then social distancing must be maintained and masks worn.
 - We will not currently be having volunteers in school
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Wrap around care

- Our wrap-around care, Bumblebees will be open to parents who require childcare for work or studies
- Children attending wrap around care will be taught in one class during the day to reduce the number of children in their bubble
- The children will be grouped in the following way:

Nursery and Reception will be based in Bumblebees and will be dropped off and picked up at the Bumblebees door.

Year 1 will be based in the Staffroom and will be dropped off and picked up at the double glass door to the right of the car park.

Year 2 will be based in Little Acorns and will be dropped off and picked up at the main entrance of the Little Acorns building.

- Bubbles will use toilets allocated to their bubble. These will be washed after each session, following government cleaning guidance.
- Bumblebees will finish 15 minutes early, **at 5.45pm**, to ensure cleaning can take place (of tables and all resources) at the end of each day in addition to the clean it will get each day by the cleaning staff.
- Meals will be provided by 'Crumbs' and all crockery and cutlery will be kept within each 'bubble'.

Please be reassured that we are taking all the required measures to make our schools as safe as can be. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for all pupils and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required.

Thank you for all your support with remote learning. Where children have followed the learning set out each week, they will have covered the same content as those children who attended school. This should mean the majority of pupils will be ready to move on with their learning together. For those children who require additional support, this will be put into place as part of the class planning and teaching.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions or concerns.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Nisbet