

Returning to School in September – Information for Parents and Carers of Children in Year R, 1 and 2

Dear Parents and Carers

We are so pleased that we are finally able to welcome all of the Brookland children back to school in September. We are really looking forward to seeing you all. All year groups, with the exception of our new reception cohort return on Wednesday 2nd September. The school will hold an INSET day on Tuesday 1st September.

As you can imagine, organising the return of all children has been logistically challenging. The systems we put in place in June for the return of key workers and children in Year R, 1 and 6 have proved to be very successful. This has been not only because of the hard work of staff but also due to the support and engagement of both parents and children. I know that parents will continue to do everything possible to ensure that these plans are equally successful.

Children will return to school in a class bubble, these bubbles will not mix during the school day and will have staggered starts, finishes, playtime and lunches.

Coming to School and Going Home.

In order to maintain some form of social distancing at the start and end of the school day, we have staggered the entry and exit times for each class. It is important that parents arrive at the correct times in order to avoid the crossover of bubbles.

In Term One – Infant children will arrive and leave via the rear gate on the school field. We would ask parents not to congregate outside the gate or in the road but to observe social distancing as much as possible outside the school. We would ask that parents do not drive their cars to the rear of the school or park in the road behind to avoid any further complaints from our neighbours.

Class 1 parents (Year R) should drop their children at the rear gate at 8.55am and collect them from the rear entrance at 3.10pm

Class 2 parents (Year 1 and 2) should drop their children at the rear gate at 8.45am and collect them from the rear entrance at 3.15pm.

*(Where parents have a **child in the infant and the juniors**, you **should use your infant child instructions to bring all** of your children into school.)*

Learning in the Classroom

In term one, your child's classroom will look a little different. We want to make sure that your child reconnects with school and rediscovers that love of learning but we will have a number of measures in place to make the classrooms as safe as possible. We have taken the decision to extend the school day a little for the oldest children in order to give them the best opportunity to catch up. The length of lunch, breaks and playtime will not change.

Hygiene Measures will be applied to your child's learning environment

- All children will sit side by side, facing the front.
- Every child will wash their hands when they arrive and before they leave the classroom or the school.

- Every child will have a designated chair and work station.
- Children will have their own stationery kit, provided by the school.
- Furniture and equipment, along with high touch points will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.
- Soft furnishing, outside play equipment will be temporarily unavailable.
- Reading books will be placed in a special box and sanitised before it is passed on.
- The children will only work in their class 'bubbles'. They will not have assemblies in the hall or mix in groups beyond their bubble. Playtimes and lunchtimes will also be separate.

Lunch

- We will be providing hot lunches from the start of term but these will be delivered to the bubbles in take away containers.
- All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for a Universal Free School Meal. We expect this to be available in September to all infant children.
- All other children will need a packed lunch which will be eaten with their class bubble. These will either be eaten in the classroom or outside if the weather is nice.

Things to bring to school

- Children should wear school uniform.
- A packed lunch if that is what you have chosen to do.
- A water bottle with your name on it.
- A coat or jacket with your name on it.
- On Tuesday – wear a PE kit with tracksuit and trainers.
- Reading book.
- No pencil cases or items from home.

Play and Break Times

- The children will have staggered break times to avoid crossover.
- Please provide a piece of fruit or vegetable for snack time.
- Play equipment will be limited.

Attendance

- Attendance for every child from September becomes statutory again.
- The normal school absence policy and procedures apply.
- **If your child is unwell, they must not attend school.** Parents should contact the school office before 9.30am with details of your child's illness. We will send further guidance closer to the start of term.
- The school will be engaging with the Track and Trace System.
- Guidance from Public Health England currently states that primary aged children should not wear face masks in school. (This will be reviewed as and when guidance is updated)
- If your child becomes unwell at school, we will call you straight away for you to collect them. The school has a designated area, following PHE guidelines. Parents will be directed to this when asked to collect.

The School Office

- Please call the school office, email or Dojo instead of visiting the office.

- Please do not pick up your child early from school. If you have an appointment that cannot be made out of school hours, you should call the school office so that arrangements can be made for collection. Please give as much notice as possible.

Extended School Provision

- Breakfast and After School Clubs will operate in the school hall.
- Breakfast Club will open at 7.45am.
- After School Club will finish at 6.00pm.
- Class 'bubbles' will operate within wrap around care, with bubbles socially distancing from each other.
- We require at least two days notice for booking places, so that we can manage socially distanced numbers. Unfortunately, we cannot run a 'turn up on the day' Breakfast Club at the moment. We cannot guarantee that we can provide you a place.

Transition for children moving to Year 1.

On the first Wednesday (2nd), Thursday (3rd) and Friday (4th) of term, the new year 1 children will spend the morning with Miss Oxley, before moving into their new class bubble, with Miss Calver, in the afternoons.

We will also look to give them some additional afternoon sessions the following week with Miss Oxley.

Transition for children moving into Year R.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to Brookland but as you can imagine we have been unable to run our usual transition sessions.

On the first Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we will arrange an individual session in the afternoon for your child and one parent to visit the school. During this time Miss Oxley and Miss Leverett will meet with you to discuss transition and show you the classroom and how things will run day-to-day.

The children will start on a part-time basis from the 7th September before joining us full time on Thursday 10th September

Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th – until lunchtime 11.45 am

Wednesday 9th – stay to have lunch and then leave at 12.15 pm

Thursday 10th – in full time. 8.55 am to 3.10 pm

If you have any questions regarding your child's return to school, please do not hesitate to either phone, email or Dojo. I would be more than happy to speak to you.

We look forward to seeing you in the near future.

We hope that you have a lovely summer holiday.

Please take care, stay safe, stay well.

Mr H and the Brookland Staff.