

# Benhurst Primary School



**A Guide to Year 4  
September 2018**

*'Only my best is good enough for me'*



# Benhurst Primary School Introduction



*'Only my best is good enough for me'*

We would like to welcome your child into Year 4! The Year four staff are Mrs McCarthy in 4M and Miss Graves in 4G. Mrs McCarthy is the Year Group Leader for Year 4. Both classes are supported by Mrs Jones who is the Teaching Assistant for the year group.

We operate an open door policy where you are encouraged to speak to us about anything you think we should be aware of. Please be mindful that we have more time to discuss issues at the end of the day than at the beginning. Obviously, if it is something which we need to be made aware of in the morning then we can spare a few seconds. However, we have to be mindful of the rest of the class. We are happy to speak on the phone at a more convenient time or alternatively you can leave a message with the office and we will get back to you.

We hope that your child will enjoy their time in Year 4 and look forward to working with you over the year!

Mrs McCarthy & Miss Graves



# Benhurst Primary School Curriculum



*'Only my best is good enough for me'*

An overview of the Year 4 Curriculum can be found on the school [website](#).

## **Planners and Reading**

Your child has been given a planner. If you have not already done so, please look through this with your child and sign the 'Home School Agreement.'

In Year 4 we focus on developing a positive attitude to reading and build upon children's comprehension skills by:

- Shared reading as a class.
- Individual reading.
- Regular reading comprehensions.

We need you to support your child by hearing them read at least four times per week at home and complete the planner.

It is incredibly important that you ask your child questions on what they have read to ensure that they have the relevant understanding.

Planners are checked on a Monday.

## **Spelling**

New spellings are issued to the children each Thursday. These will be glued into your child's planner.

We follow the Spelling Zoo scheme of work which follows the requirements of the National Curriculum.

There is a list of spellings which children are expected to be able to spell correctly by the end of Lower Key Stage 2. They are all incorporated into the weekly spellings and are revisited throughout the year.

Your child will practise spellings at school but they also need to practise them at home. They will be tested every Tuesday and results will be put in the planner by your child.

## **Maths Homework**

Your child has been given a Mental Arithmetic book. They should complete one page per week. The book should be returned to school each Tuesday and will be handed back to your child each Thursday. If your child's book is handed in late then it may not be marked that week.

## **Project Homework**

We would like to invite your child to take part in a termly project which they should undertake in addition to their reading and learning their spellings and maths facts.

The children should choose a minimum of one task per section or more if they wish!

Children will be awarded a certificate upon the completion of their project.

## **Homework information**

Homework will be updated on the [school website every Thursday](#).

### **Swimming**

4M swim on Tuesdays and 4G on Wednesdays. Lessons take place at Harrow Lodge Sports Centre. Your child needs to be in school by 8:30am on their swimming day. The children will then be registered and we will leave school at 8:35 prompt to walk to the Sports Centre. If your child attends ABACUS then we will arrange to collect them.

All pupils are assessed on their ability in the first session and then grouped accordingly. Children will be split across three groupings and taught by qualified instructors. Two Life Guards are also in attendance.

All pupils will need a swimming costume (one-piece) or trunks, towel and swimming hat. For identification and safety reasons we require the children to wear WHITE swimming hats which can be purchased from Havering School Wear. Please write your child's name clearly on the front of the hat so that the instructors can identify them quickly and easily. If you would like your child to wear goggles please send them in with a letter giving permission for them to wear them. Flip-flops and toiletries are not permitted.

Please ensure that you send your child to school with a waterproof coat if it looks like they may need it on swimming days. We will only cancel swimming in extreme weather so will still walk there if it is raining.

If your child cannot go swimming they will need to arrive at school at normal time 8:50am and enter via the office to be registered ready to join the other Year 4 class. As swimming is part of the National Curriculum we will need a letter stating why they cannot attend.

### **PE Lessons**

PE kits should be in school at all times and include a pair of plimsolls. All items to be clearly named. Indoor PE lessons will usually take place for 4M on Wednesdays and 4G on Tuesday these may however be subject to change.

### **Trips and Special Days**

During the year we will have a variety of special days in school and at least two school trips. These are detailed in the [Curriculum Overview on the website](#).



# Benhurst Primary School Assessment



*'Only my best is good enough for me'*

At Benhurst, we assess children as part of our daily teaching through general observations of their learning and ongoing discussions. These daily interactions with your child are used to inform our planning and to develop your child's learning.

From the 2019 to 2020 academic year onwards, schools in England will be required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to Year 4 pupils.

A national pilot will take place between 10 June and 28 June 2019, to allow schools to familiarise themselves with the check before it becomes statutory in June 2020.

The [national curriculum](#) specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12x12 by the end of year 4.

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics.

We have always had a strong focus on times table as these underpin all Maths learning. Children in Year 4 have been provided access to [Times Table Rock Stars](#) which they can access at school and at home. Please encourage your child to access the site several times a week.

In school children will use Times Table Rock Stars at least once per week. In addition to this everyday children complete a timed, times table challenge of 50 questions within 3 minutes which the children thoroughly enjoy, these progress gradually and build children's confidence. As in previous years the children also complete the Benhurst Olympic Challenges once per week and will be rewarded with certificates for passing.

At the end of the Year children will be tested on the [Year 3/4 spelling words](#). Your child has been supplied with this list in their planners. It can also be found in the curriculum area of the school website. The children learn these throughout the year and will have fun learning them for the Spellathon.

In the Summer Term children will also sit assessments in Spelling Punctuation and Grammar, Reading and Maths. These are to confirm our teacher judgments of the children's ability and to identify areas for development. The assessments are sat over the period of one week and children are given more relaxed activities in between.

An informal Science assessment is also carried out in the Summer Term.

We have included some links below which may help with your child's learning.

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/383/Marlons-Magical-Maths-Mission-Multiplication>

<https://numberock.com/>

<http://www.historyforkids.net/>

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f>



# Benhurst Primary School Gaming and Social Media



*'Only my best is good enough for me'*

In recent years, we have seen an increase in the number of children using social media and computer games aimed at a mainly teenage audience. This can cause issues at home and school and it is important that parents are aware of what their child is using and monitors it very closely.

For example, we know of children as young as 7 who have access to Fortnite, Call of Duty and GTA. To illustrate our concern, GTA is a game based on gang violence using knives and guns, stealing, nudity, extremely coarse language, alcohol abuse, stealing and selling illegal drugs, prostitution and breaking and entering. As parents, we would ask you to consider the boundaries you set for your children. For those who believe such games appropriate for their child at a primary age, I would ask if you would be comfortable allowing your child to see any of these situations in real life? Of course the answer is no, so why allow them to see and hear these things on a computer?

Some studies have shown a direct link between children playing violent games and them behaving aggressively. It is becoming increasingly noticeable from the way children speak and play if they are exposed to such games and is a growing concern within our school.

More information on this subject can be found at [www.askaboutgames.com/age-rating-info/](http://www.askaboutgames.com/age-rating-info/)

Below is a guide to some popular social media platforms that you may find useful.



Instagram (age 13+) lets users snap, edit, and share photos and 15-second videos, either publicly or with a private network of followers. It also lets you apply fun filters and effects to your photos, making them look high quality and artistic.

What parents need to know:

- Children are on the lookout for "likes." Children may measure the "success" of their photos - even their self-worth (worryingly) by the number of likes or comments they receive.
- Public photos are the default. Photos and videos shared on Instagram are public unless privacy settings are adjusted.
- Private messaging is now an option. Instagram Direct allows users to send "private messages" to up to 15 mutual friends. These pictures don't show up on their public feeds.



Snapchat (age 13+) is a messaging app that lets users put a time limit on the pictures and videos they send before they disappear. Many young people use the app to share silly or embarrassing photos without the risk of them going public. However, there are lots of opportunities to use it in other ways.

What parents need to know:

- It's a myth that Snapchats go away forever. Whenever an image is sent, it remains part of their digital footprint.
- It can make sending inappropriate images/messages seem OK. The seemingly risk-free messaging may actually encourage users to share pictures which they know they shouldn't.



Oovoo (age 13+) is a free video, voice and messaging app. Users can have group chats with up to 12 people.

What parents need to know:

- The default setting is public so you can talk to people you don't know, but they can be changed so that you can just talk to your friends
- The main safety issues are around the content of discussion and the ability to talk with strangers



WhatsApp (age 16+) users send text messages, audio messages, videos, and photos to one or many people with no message limits or fees.

What parents need to know:

- It can be pushy. After you sign up, it automatically connects you to all the people in your address book who also are using WhatsApp. It encourages you to add friends who haven't signed up yet.



Skype (age 13+) is a computer programme and app, which lets you make audio and video calls to other users around the world. You can also send instant messages.

What parents need to know:

- It can be difficult to adjust the privacy settings
- It's difficult to work out how to report or block
- Information on keeping safe online isn't prominent on the site.

### General Social Media Age Guide



### Reporting a Concern

To report a concern about online grooming or sexual behaviour online, contact CEOP: [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

Thank you in advance for your support and for keeping our children safe.





## Benhurst Primary School Useful Contact Information



*'Only my best is good enough for me'*

| Name          | Role  | Email Address  |
|---------------|---|--|
| Mr Denchfield | Head teacher<br>Child Protection lead               | <a href="mailto:ddenchfield@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">ddenchfield@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a> |
| Mrs Hart      | Deputy Head teacher<br>Deputy Child Protection Lead | <a href="mailto:khart@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">khart@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>             |
| Mrs Garratty  | Assistant Head teacher                              | <a href="mailto:kgaratty@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">kgaratty@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>       |
| Mrs Loyns     | Assistant Head teacher (Mon, Tue, Wed)<br>SENDCo    | <a href="mailto:kloyns@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">kloyns@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>           |
| Mrs McCarthy  | GDPR Lead   | <a href="mailto:sdmccarthy@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">sdmccarthy@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>   |
| Mrs Halls     | Office (Reception)                                  | <a href="mailto:ehalls@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">ehalls@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>           |
| Mrs Bastin    | Office (Attendance)                                 | <a href="mailto:gbastin@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">gbastin@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>         |
|               | General Office                                      | <a href="mailto:office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>           |
| Mrs McCarthy  | Year Group Leader                                   | <a href="mailto:sdmccarthy@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">sdmccarthy@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>   |
| Miss Graves   | Teacher   | <a href="mailto:hgraves@benhurst.havering.sch.uk">hgraves@benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>         |
| Mrs Jones     | Support Staff (HLTA/TA/1:1)                         | No emails included   |

| Name                               | Contact information   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| School phone number                | 01708 450807  |
| School website - Main Page         | <a href="http://www.benhurst.havering.sch.uk">www.benhurst.havering.sch.uk</a>  |
| School Clubs and Sports list       | <a href="https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/clubs-and-sports">https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/clubs-and-sports</a>         |
| Reporting a child's absence online | <a href="https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/reporting-an-absence">https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/reporting-an-absence</a> |
| School Calendar                    | <a href="https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/calendar/calendar">https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/calendar/calendar</a>                       |
| sQuid                              | <a href="https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/squid">https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/squid</a>                               |
| Havering Catering Menu             | <a href="https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/school-dinners">https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/school-dinners</a>             |
| ABACUS                             | <a href="https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/abacus">https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/abacus</a>                             |
| SMART amp login                    | <a href="https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/children/extended-learning">https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/children/extended-learning</a>     |
| School Twitter                     | @BenhurstPrimary  |
| School You Tube                    | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd3hYuUGT-zoBb7zjv6IfJA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd3hYuUGT-zoBb7zjv6IfJA</a>           |



