

Benhurst Primary School



**A Guide to Year 4
September 2019**

'Only my best is good enough for me'



Benhurst Primary School Introduction



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Class	Teacher	Additional Adult/s
4G	Miss Graves (Year Group Leader)	Jane Jones
4M	Miss Beach	

Open door policy

We operate an open door policy regarding your child's wellbeing where you can speak to us about anything you think we should be aware of. Please be aware that we have more time to discuss issues at the end of the day than at the beginning. Should you have any immediate concerns or information regarding your child during that day please feel free to mention it as they enter. Alternatively, if you require a more in-depth discussion, you will need to make an appointment to speak with the Class Teacher through the office, we can arrange for a meeting or a phone call at a convenient time.

If your child needs to leave school during the day for an appointment or be collected by a different adult, please ensure that the office is informed so that all members of staff are aware of any changes. Should you arrive to school late in the morning, your child must enter via the school office as they need to register their attendance as well as select their lunch option. If you are going to be late collecting your child at the end of the school day, please email or phone the office, as soon as possible, to ensure the message reaches us by the end of the day. We hope that your child will enjoy their time in Year 4.



Benhurst Primary School

General Year 4 Information



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The School Day

8:50 - 9:00	Arrive at school/registration
9:00 - 10:30	Lessons
10:30 - 10:45	Break time
10:45-12:45	Lesson
12:45-1:45	Lunchtime
1:45-3:30	Lessons

Curriculum

The Year 4 curriculum overview can be found on our school website: <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-4-curriculum/>

School trips/residentials

During the year we will have a variety of special days in school and at least two school trips.

PE

PE kits should be in school at all times and include a pair of plimsolls. They are to be taken home during school holidays to be washed and returned ready for the first day back. All items to be clearly named. Indoor PE lessons will usually take place for both 4G and 4B on Thursday, these may however be subject to change.

4G swim on Tuesdays and 4B 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. One Life Guard is 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.

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.

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 Thursday and results will be put in the planner by your child.

The Year 4 home learning information can be found on our school website: <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-1-homework-2-2-2-2/>

Assessments

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. 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.

Useful Websites

Benhurst website - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/>

Year 4 curriculum - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-4-curriculum/>

Year 4 homework - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-1-homework-2-2-2-2/>

SQUID - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/squid/>

<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



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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 notable 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/

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

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



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Useful Contact Information



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Name	Role	Email Address
Mr Denchfield	Head teacher Child Protection lead	ddenchfield@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Mrs Hart	Deputy Head teacher Deputy Child Protection Lead	khart@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Mrs Garratty	Assistant Head teacher	kgaratty@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Mrs Loyns	Assistant Head teacher (Mon, Tue, Wed) SENDCo	kloyns@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Mrs McCarthy	GDPR Lead	smccarthy@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Mrs Halls	Office (Reception)	ehalls@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Mrs Bastin	Office (Attendance)	gbastin@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
	General Office	office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Miss Graves	Year Group Leader	hgraves@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Miss Beach	Teacher	sbeach@benhurst.havering.sch.uk

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