

Benhurst Primary School

Benhurst Avenue
Elm Park
Hornchurch
Essex
RM12 4QS

Tel: 01708 450807
Email: office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Website: www.benhurst.havering.sch.uk
Twitter: @BenhurstPrimary



Head teacher: Mr D. Denchfield BA (Hons) NPQH

Friday 28th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have been able to enjoy time with your family and friends and are well. I realise that for many families, this summer may have been very different and exciting summer plans may have been changed due to personal circumstances and government advice.

As I am sure you will have read, there continues to be significant information, discussion and conjecture regarding COVID-19. We have continued to closely monitor the situation and have developed our plans around what we consider best for our children, parents, staff and local community. Below is a summary of our reopening guidelines and procedures for September.

Summary of the current school reopening strategy. (This is subject to change based on new guidance from LIFE, the local authority or central government)	
Monday 7 th September	All Y1 to Y6 children back to school. ABACUS breakfast club and after school club restart.
Monday 14 th September	YR start part time
Monday 5 th October	YR start full time
Friday 23 rd October	Final day of half term
Monday 2 nd November	Children return to school

School day

- Start time (all children) - Class doors open from 8:45 to 9:00 (9:00 registration time)
- End time (YR, Y1, Y2) - 3:15
- End time (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) - 3:30

Bubble class sizes

- Bubble classes will revert to normal class sizes of 30 children.
- Children will be able to mix with children from the other year group bubble.
- We will restrict the opportunity for children in different year groups to mix. This will not always be possible (e.g. siblings, ABACUS) but our plans significantly reduce contact outside of your child's year group during the school day.

Entrance/Exit for the start/end of the school day

- Entrance: Via Benhurst Avenue only
- Exit: Via Warren Drive only

Office access to parents/visitors

- Only 1 visitor is permitted into the office at a time.
- Parents should only visit the office when absolutely necessary.

Cleaning

- Toilets will be fully cleaned at the start or end of the day and hourly during the day.
- Classrooms will be fully cleaned on a daily basis.

Curriculum

- During Autumn 1, we will assess our children through discussions and activities. This information will be used to inform our planning over the academic year. It is important that when our children return to school, they do not feel under pressure to quickly 'catch up' from any missed learning. We care deeply for your children and are ambitious for them but must balance their educational needs with their happiness and well-being.
- We will offer a broad curriculum including Maths, English, Cornerstones topics, PE and Mental Well-Being sessions. Class timetables have been created to allow for some weekly flexibility so teachers can focus on specific areas of need individual classes may have.
- Home learning will focus on reading/spellings/phonics only for Autumn 1. This is to ensure the children do not feel overwhelmed in their first half term.
- Y4 will not attend swimming sessions in Autumn 1.
- No large assemblies will take place in Autumn 1. Year Group assemblies will be offered where possible. Teachers will issue certificates/sunshine badges in class on a Friday.
- Only local walking trips to be considered in Autumn 1 (e.g. Harrow Lodge Park, Elm Park)
- The government have stated that statutory assessments in primary schools will go ahead as planned (Y1 phonics, KS1 SATs, Y4 multiplication tables check, KS2 SATs).
- The government has yet to issue detailed guidance regarding the additional funding that schools will be given to support children with any gaps in their learning following their extended absence from school.

Classroom

- Desks will face forward where possible. Children are able to share a desk.
- We will continue to provide all stationery.
- Books/resources etc may be used but not shared outside the year group unless cleaned.
- SMART boards may be used. Screens will be regularly cleaned during the school day.
- Lockers/pegs and class trays may be used.
- Hand sanitiser dispensers are installed in all classrooms. Children will sanitise/wash their hands at key points during the day (e.g. upon entry, before and after break, lunchtimes)

Other information

- School attendance is mandatory from September.
- Face coverings or face masks in primary school are not necessary.
- ABACUS resume for breakfast and after school provision from September. Parents may use the Benhurst Avenue entrance as usual for drop off and pick up as numbers are low.
- School uniform and PE kits are required as usual.
- Play/Lunchtimes remain the same but year groups will be separated.
- School lunches will resume on Monday 7th September. <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/school-dinners/>
- No sports clubs, lunchtime clubs or sports events in Autumn 1.
- Some areas of the school will be out of use in Autumn 1 (e.g. library, KS2 playground gym).
- No FOB events in Autumn 1.
- Visitors to the school will be limited.
- Christmas plans will be considered nearer the time but remain subject to government guidelines. We have cancelled the pantomime trip to The Queens Theatre.
- We will continue to share pictures of learning/activities on Twitter @benhurstprimary.

Apologies for sharing so much information but it is important we are clear and transparent ahead of our reopening on Monday 7th September. I understand that some of these temporary changes may be inconvenient and some parents may have a different personal view and I would like to thank you in advance for your understanding, co-operation and patience.

We are really looking forward to coming back as a school community and are very excited to see the children again!

Take care and stay safe.



Mr D Denchfield
Head Teacher