

Benhurst Primary School

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

Monday 28th September 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

Below are some important updates that you should be aware of; I have highlighted changes in yellow for ease.

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 are normal class sizes of 30 children.
- Children can mix with children from the other year group bubble.
- We have restricted 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

- Benhurst Avenue and Warren Drive entrances can be used at the start and end of the day. Please ensure you leave the school premises immediately after dropping off/collecting your child/children and observe social distancing protocols wherever possible. There should not be any congregations of parents and children on school premises.

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.
- We have a contact tracing QR code in the school office entrance.

Cleaning

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

Classroom

- Desks face forward where possible. Children are able to share a desk.
- We will provide all stationery.
- Books/resources etc may be used but not shared outside the year group unless cleaned.
- SMART boards are being used. Screens are regularly cleaned during the school day.
- Lockers/pegs and class trays may be used.
- We have two hand sanitisers in every classroom and a hand sanitiser in all admin offices.
- Children will continue to use their own individual water bottle which remains on their desk during lessons. These may be purchased from the school office.
- 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.
- Face coverings or face masks in primary school are not required to be worn by adults but you are very welcome to do so.
- ABACUS are operating a breakfast and after school provision.
- School uniform and PE kits are required as usual.
- Year groups are separated for break and lunchtime.
- School lunches are available. <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/school-dinners/>
- No sports clubs, lunchtime clubs or sports events until further notice.
- No FOB events until further notice.
- Some areas of the school remain out of use until further notice (e.g. library, KS2 playground gym).
- School corridors has been taped in the middle to guide children to walk on the left hand side.
- Visitors to the school will be limited until further notice.
- Google classroom home learning will be provided for children not at school because of COVID-19 (i.e. awaiting the results of a test, requiring to isolate). We do understand that children who are unwell may not be able to complete their learning. This is not in place for any other school absence (e.g. non-COVID related illness, unauthorised holiday).
- Christmas arrangements will be modified this year. Some events will not take place (e.g. live performances with an audience) whilst other events should be able to take place (e.g. class parties, Christmas jumper day). We will write to you nearer the time with further information.
- Please ensure your child uses Google Classroom. This is where all homework is posted and will be used during a lockdown for learning. <https://classroom.google.com/h> . Please email Mrs McCarthy is you have any difficulties sdmccarthy@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
- We have a dedicated COVID-19 page on the website with links to key information that you may find helpful - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/covid-guidance/>

Key Dates

These are also on the school calendar - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/calendar/calendar>

Monday 5 th October	-	YR start full-time
Thursday 8 th October	-	Individual photographs (letter on the website)
Friday 23 rd October	-	Final day of half term (My last day!)
Monday 2 nd November	-	Return from half term (8:45 start)

I am sure you are aware that a number of Havering schools have recently reported positive COVID-19 tests which has required part or all of the school to close at short notice. The decision to close a school is never easy and would be taken following consultation with Public Health England and the Department of Education. Although we have not had any reported positive tests, it is important that I make you aware of this possibility. Should we be required to close, we would send a text message to parents immediately to provide as much notice as possible and follow this up with a letter that provides further information.

Take care and stay safe.



Mr D Denchfield
Head teacher