

Benhurst Primary School



**A Guide to Year 1
September 2021**

'Only my best is good enough for me'



Benhurst Primary School Introduction



'Only my best is good enough for me'

Class	Teacher	Additional Adult/s
1MC	Mrs McCarthy (Year Group Leader)	Mrs Edgeler, Mrs Willis, Mrs Doyle, Miss Callan, Mr Batt
1M	Miss Montgomery	

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. 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.

If your child needs to leave school during the day for an appointment or will 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. 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 1.



Benhurst Primary School General Year 1 Information



'Only my best is good enough for me'

The School Day

8:50 - 9:00	Arrive at school/registration
9:00 - 10:30	Lessons
10:30 - 10:45	Break time
10:45 - 11:45	Lessons
11:45 - 12:45	Lunch time
12:45 - 2:15	Lessons
2:15 - 2:25	Afternoon break
2:25 - 3:30	Lessons
3:30	Home time

Curriculum

The Year 1 curriculum overview can be found on our school website: <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-1-curriculum/>

School trips/residentials

We plan to have a school trip in the summer term, more information to follow.

PE

PE kits should be in school at all times and include a pair of plimsolls. All items to be clearly named. In Year 1, the current PE days are Monday and Wednesday. However, these may change for trips/special days/etc. We will let the children know in advance if this is likely to occur.

Homework

The Year 1 home learning information can be found on your child's Google Classroom:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/MzIwNDcxMDAxOTEw>

Each week, your child will be given the following:

Maths

- **Mathletics** - Children will be set at least 1 Maths activity per week linked to their Maths Learning in class. The children have their own unique logins. <https://www.mathletics.com/uk/>. This will be set each Wednesday and will be due the following Wednesday.

English

- **Spellings** - New spellings are issued to the children each Wednesday. These can be found on the Year 1 Google Classroom, that all children have access to. There is a list of spellings which children are expected to be able to spell correctly by the end of Key Stage 1. 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. Weekly spellings will be tested every Wednesday and your child will be aware of their score.

- Reading - We ask that the children read as often as possible with an adult/older sibling (at least four times a week). Reading books are changed in school every Monday and Thursday, as long as the previous book has been read twice - this should be evidence in your child's reading record with a comment and signature. Please encourage your child to read a wide range of texts (both fiction and non-fiction) as this will greatly help them to learn new or challenging vocabulary.

Project Homework

- Optional project homework will be set each term via Google Classroom. These will link to the children's current Cornerstones topic. The projects are a wonderful opportunity for families to work together and enjoy some shared learning! Class teachers will share a termly due date for these projects and a certificate will be issued on completion.

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.

In terms of formal assessment, Year 1 will complete the statutory Phonics Screening Check. This will be taken in the Summer term. Each child will be required to read 40 words - 20 are real words and 20 are nonsense words. The children are tested on their ability to sound out graphemes and blend them together to read the words. They will not know that they are taking this 'test' and we actively avoid putting any pressure on the children. The best way to support your child in achieving their full potential is to listen to them read their home reading books and to encourage them to use their sounds when reading unfamiliar words.

For more information regarding the Phonics Screening Check, these are some useful websites:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phonics-screening-check-2019-materials>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/at-school/assessment-at-primary-school/phonics-screening-check/>

Mrs McCarthy and Miss Montgomery are always available to go over any questions you may have about our Phonics lessons or the way we teach the children to read.

Useful Websites

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

Year 1 curriculum <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-1-curriculum/>

Year 1 homework - <https://classroom.google.com/u/0/w/MzIwNDY5NTQxNDY4/t/all>

Mathletics - <https://login.mathletics.com/>

Phonics play - <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

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



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 notable from the way children speak and play if they are exposed to such games and is a growing concern within our school.

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.



Discord is a free app for mobile and PC that lets people chat via text, voice, or video in real time. It's an easy-to-use group-chatting tool for friends. Discord requires that users be at least 13 years old, although they do not verify users' age upon sign-up.

What parents need to know:

- The safest way to use Discord is to only accept friend requests and participate in private servers with people you already know.
- There is an 'open chat' option which means you could be talking to strangers from anywhere around the world. It is advisable to avoid this option.



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.

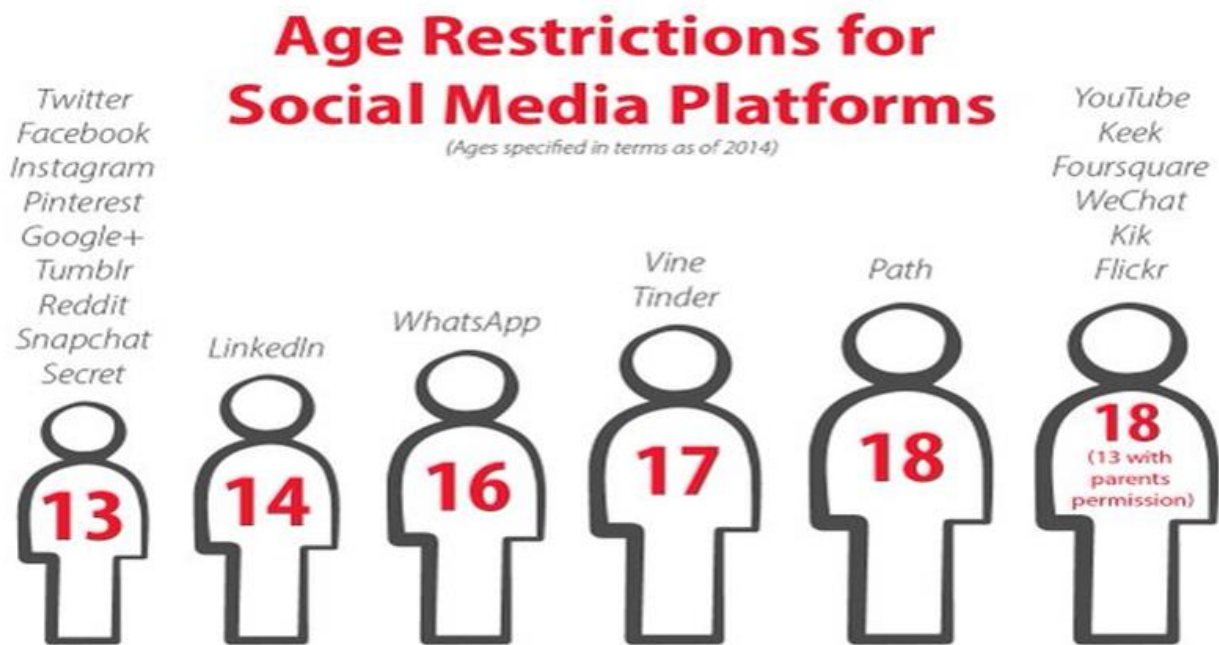


Skype (age 13+) is a computer programme and app, which lets you make audio and video calls to other users around the world. You can also send instant messages.

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.



Benhurst Primary School

Useful Information



'Only my best is good enough for me'

Name	Contact information
School phone number	01708 450807
School contact email (all email enquiries)	office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk
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 Lumio	https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/children/extended-learning
School Twitter	@BenhurstPrimary
School You Tube	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd3hYuUGT-zoBb7zjv6IfJA