

Benhurst Primary School



**A Guide to Year 1
September 2023**

'Only my best is good enough for me'



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Introduction

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Class	Teacher	Additional Adult/s
Dormouse	Miss Pattison (Year Group Leader)	Mrs Shaw, Mrs Doyle, Miss Connolly, Miss Smith
Hedgehog	Mr Snook	

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 be arriving 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. If you are unable to collect your child and you are asking another trusted adult to collect them, please let the class teacher or the office know in advance. We cannot release children at the end of the day without parental permission.

We hope that your child will enjoy their time in Year 1.



Benhurst Primary School General Year 1 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 - 12:00	Lessons
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch time
1.15 - 1:45	Guided Reading
1:45 - 3:20	Lessons
3:20 - 3:30	Prepare for home time

Curriculum

The Year 1 curriculum overview can be found at:

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

School trips/residentials

We have many exciting and educational school trips and special enrichment days planned for this school year.

In the Autumn term we will have a senses afternoon in which we explore all 5 senses in different ways, take a trip to somewhere in our local area including St Nicholas Church and visit Harrow Lodge Park for a winter seasons walk.

In the Spring term we hope to hold a toy day in which parents can come into school to play games and share toys, interview visitors that work a range of different jobs as part of our 'careers week', take a trip to the Elm Park library, visit the Young V&A (Toy) museum in Bethnal Green and visit Harrow Lodge Park for a spring seasons walk.

And finally, in the Summer term we hope to hold a pretend 'aeroplane trip' in our classrooms to an exotic location somewhere in the world, go on a bug hunt on the school field, travel on the tube to the Florence Nightingale Museum in London, take a trip to Waltham Abbey Gardens on a coach to search for insects and have our final visit to Harrow Lodge Park for a summer seasons walk.

Paid trips - Waltham Abbey Gardens (more information will be shared nearer the time)

PE

- The children will be participating in outdoor and indoor PE throughout the year. For outdoor PE a black tracksuit will be required in the winter months. Trainers are optional. Pupils will not be allowed to wear their tights during PE lessons so please provide socks.

- Please ensure that all items of clothing are labelled.

	<u>Indoor P.E.</u>	<u>Outdoor P.E.</u>
<u>Dormouse Class</u>	Friday	Wednesday
<u>Hedgehog Class</u>	Tuesday	Friday

Taking part in at least 2 hours of quality P.E lessons is a statutory requirement for children at Benhurst Primary School. Due to health and safety considerations, please remember that children are unable to wear earrings during P.E lessons. Earrings/ears must not be covered with tape. Children must arrive at school without earrings in as staff members are not permitted to remove earrings. Clear, plastic stoppers are permitted for P.E lessons. If your child has earrings in on a day that the class takes part in P.E, they will not be permitted to take part in lessons.

School appropriate earrings are small, discrete studs. Hooped earrings of any kind are not permitted.

Homework

The Year 1 home learning information can be found on Google Classroom.

<https://edu.google.com/workspace-for-education/classroom/>

Maths

○ **Mathletics** - From October half term, Children will be set at least 1 Maths activity per week linked to their Maths Learning in class. The children will log in using their Google login. <https://www.mathletics.com/uk/>. This will be set each Wednesday and due the following week.

English

○ **Spellings** - From January 2024, children will complete a weekly spelling test. Spellings are given to the children each Wednesday. These can be found on the Year 1 Google Classroom. There is a list of spellings which children are expected to be able to spell correctly by the end of Year 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. A copy of the Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words will be uploaded to Google Classroom; these are words that children are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 2.

○ **Reading** - We ask that the children read as often as possible with an adult at home (at least four times a week). Reading books are changed in school every Tuesday, as long as each book has been read twice - this should be evidenced in your child's reading record with the date, 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 half term via Google Classroom. There will be 3 writing, 3 research and 3 creative projects linked to the children's current topic. The projects are a wonderful opportunity for families to work together and enjoy some shared learning! This homework will be due at the end of each half term, celebrated in school 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 pseudo or 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/>

Miss Pattison and Mr Snook 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 - Please see Google Classroom

ParentPay - <https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login>

Essential Letters and Sounds- <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/what-is-letters-and-sounds/>

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

TTRockstars - <https://ttrackstars.com/>

Phonics Play - <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> (subscription not required for some activities)

Additional information

School bags:

Key Stage One - Benhurst Primary School Book Bag. (These are provided for each child on entry to Reception).

Water bottles:

A school water bottle or a clear, plastic water bottle up to 500ml in size. Metal bottles or bottles with additional features are not permitted.

Toileting:

As the children begin their transition from Reception to Year 1, we are very mindful of all the changes they will be facing. In Reception, the children have access to toilets within the classroom, however in Year 1, the toilets are external to the classroom. At the end of Reception, the children were expected to ask an adult to use the toilet and wait to use the toilets during break and free flow instead of during short teaching inputs. This is to support their transition to Year 1. Within Year 1, the whole class focused learning time is gradually increased. This is a time when the teachers would prefer for the children to be in the classroom learning, meaning that the children are encouraged to use the toilet at specific times (breaktimes/lunchtimes/choosing time). Nonetheless, if a child is desperate for the toilet/hasn't been for a long time then the teacher will allow them to go.



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.



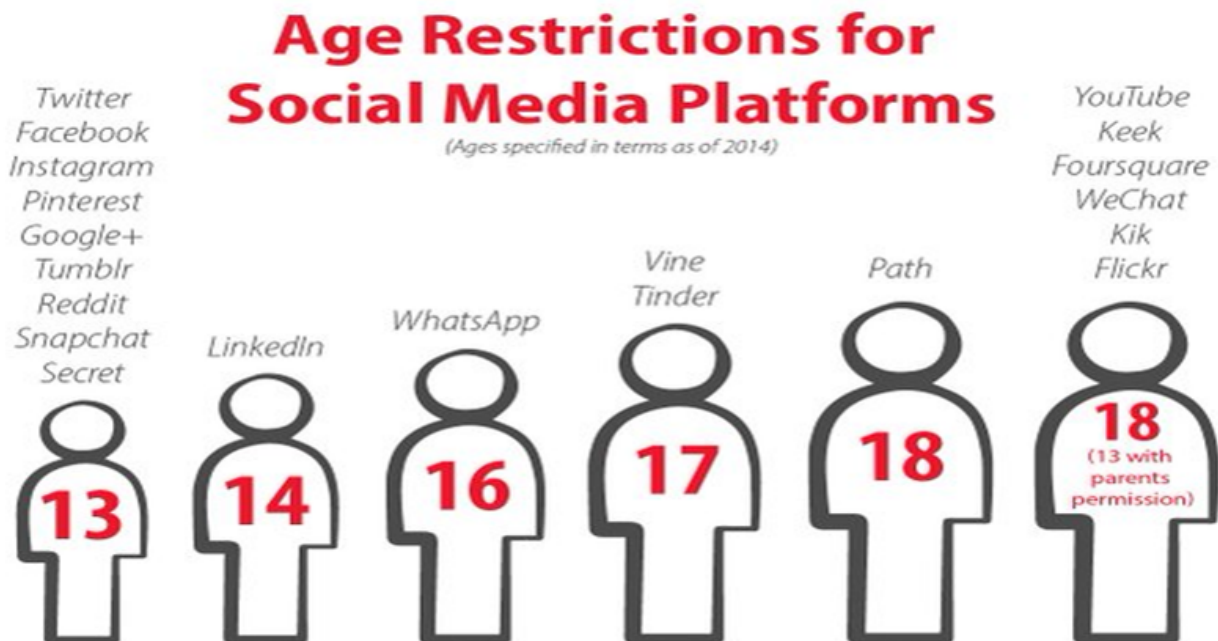
Skype (age 13+) is a computer programme and app, which lets you make audio and video calls to other

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.



Benhurst Primary School Useful Contact Information



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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/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Term-dates-for-2023-2024-002.pdf
Parent Pay	https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login
IFG Lunch Ordering	https://innovate2020.cashlesschool.co.uk/
ABACUS	https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/parents/abacus
SMART Lumio	https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/children/extended-learning
School Twitter	@BenhurstPrimary