

Benhurst Primary School



**A Guide to Year 6
September 2023**

'Only my best is good enough for me'



Benhurst Primary School

Introduction



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Class	Teacher	Additional Adult/s
Owl	Miss Gregory	Mrs Cooper, Mrs Jones and Mrs Sheehan
Kestrel	Miss Charalambous (Year Group Lead)	

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 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. 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 can not release children at the end of the day without parental permission.

We hope that your child will enjoy their time in Year 6.



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General Year 6 Information



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The School Day

8:50 - 9:00	Arrive at school/registration
9:00 - 9:45	Guided Reading
9:45-10:45	Lessons
10:45 - 11:00	Break time
11:00 - 12:15	Lessons
12:15 - 1:15	Lunch time
1.15 - 3:20	Lessons
3:20 - 3:30	Prepare for home time

Curriculum

The Year 6 curriculum overview can be found on our school website: <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-6-curriculum/>

School trips/residentials

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

- Imperial War Museum - 3rd October
- Hornchurch Heritage Centre - Autumn 2
- Pantomime - Autumn 2
- Olympic Park - Summer 2
- London Street Art Tour - Summer 2
- Residential 1st-3rd July

PE

PE kits should be in school at all times and include a pair of plimsolls. All items to be clearly named. In Year 6, boys and girls get changed for PE in separate classrooms.

	<u>Indoor P.E.</u>	<u>Outdoor P.E.</u>
<u>Owl Class</u>	Monday	Wednesday
<u>Kestrel Class</u>	Wednesday	Monday

As the children are entering puberty, we kindly ask that they take their kits home every so often for a wash. We would also like to request that they be allowed to have a roll-on deodorant that they can keep in their kits to use while at school. Please do not send in heavily scented or aerosol deodorants as this can become overwhelming.

Equipment

- In Key Stage 2, every child is provided with a pencil case containing all the necessary equipment. These will be kept with them in school.
- All children have been provided with a planner which needs to be in school on a daily basis. At the front there is an agreement which needs to be signed by the parent(s)/carer(s) and the child. Each time your child reads at home please indicate this by signing the planner. Planners will be collected every Monday to

check that your child has read at least four times in the previous week.

Homework

The Year 4 home learning information can be found on *Google Classroom*.

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 given to the children each Wednesday. These can be found on the Year 3 *Google Classroom*. There is a list of spellings which children are expected to be able to spell correctly by the end of Year 3. 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 Tuesday and your child will be aware of their score. Spellings books will not be sent home.
- **Reading** - We ask that the children read as often as possible with an adult/older sibling (at least four times a week). The children can fill in their own reading records if they are able to, but we kindly request that you still sign them yourselves. 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.
- **Reading books** - Children will change their own reading books within the stage they are currently at. All children have been shown how to do this by an adult and will help build their independence. Books will only be changed once your child's planner has been signed to say the book has been read twice. For longer books, books should be read once over a couple of days.
- 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.

SATs - Monday 13th May- Thursday 16th May 2024

While your children enjoy a broad and balanced curriculum, the Year 6 team will ensure that they are fully prepared for their SATs in May. Please support your children with their home learning as this will greatly assist all the hard work and effort they are putting in during their school hours. We will issue each child a Maths and English revision guide that they can use to support their learning both in school and at home. We understand that this can be a stressful time for your children. However, please remind them that it is the 'grown-ups' job to worry and all they have to do is try their best. Below is the timetable for the SATs week. More information will be provided at

the SATs meeting nearer the time.

Monday 13 th May 2024	Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar
Tuesday 14 th May 2024	Reading
Wednesday 15 th May 2024	Maths paper 1 (Arithmetic) and Maths paper 2 (Reasoning)
Thursday 16 th May 2024	Maths paper 3 (Reasoning)

Useful Websites

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

Year 6 curriculum - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-6-curriculum/>

Year 6 homework - Google Classroom

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

Mathletics - <https://www.mathletics.com/uk/>

Times Table Rockstars - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

U R Brainy - <https://urbrainy.com/mtc>

Additional information

School bags:

Key Stage Two - Benhurst Primary School Book Bag, Benhurst Primary School Rucksack or a plain black or dark green rucksack.

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.

Transition:

We know that choosing a secondary school for your child is a big decision. To help you research the options available, we are delighted to bring you this brand new video from the Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls (FBA), another school in the LIFE Education Trust family. We hope that you love the values that this primary school and LIFE stand for and, if you would like to continue to send your daughter to a school which upholds the same vision and goals, you may want to consider FBA. Look out for details of their next open day coming soon too.

<https://fbaok.co.uk/about-us/headteachers-welcome/#video-page>



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	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