



Beckley Church of England Primary School

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION – FULL REOPENING ON 8 MARCH

Dear Parents

The Government have announced that all primary children, in all year groups, will return to school full time on Monday 8th March 2021.

This letter sets out the protective measures that we will be taking as well as what parents and children will need to do to help ensure that school is as safe as possible for everyone. Included are our current intentions for the full reopening of the school. As the overall situation continues to be fluid, school will remain alert to both local and national developments and there may be further changes. Please take sufficient time to carefully read all information contained in this letter ahead of Monday 8th March – there are several important changes from previous arrangements.

From today, this information will be available on the school website. The content of this document is provisional and based on current advice from the Department for Education. Please note that the Government have again stipulated that parents should not be admitted into school buildings.

Attendance

It is vital that **all** children return to school - for their educational progress, for their wellbeing, and for their wider development. School attendance will again be **mandatory** from Monday 8th March. This means that the legal duty on you as a parent to send your child to school daily will apply.

Making School as Safe as Possible

As part of our risk assessment process, there are certain approaches that we will be implementing which are essential to reduce health risks. Parents should support us in this by:

- Ensuring that anyone who has coronavirus symptoms, or has someone in their household who does, does not attend school.
- Engaging with the NHS Test and Trace process so that cases can be identified and action taken.

Alongside the above, we will be:

- Minimising contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they do not attend the school.
- Ensuring face coverings are used in recommended circumstances.
- Ensuring everyone is advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
- Ensuring good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Maintaining enhanced daytime cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
- Minimising contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible.
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.

Arrivals and Departures

We will need to stagger our start and finish times in order to help keep groups apart on the way to and from school, and as they arrive and leave the premises. These timings are deliberately closer together than in the autumn term. **This will only work if all families are punctual in their timings so that a constant flow is maintained.** It will be kept under review. Please find these timings below:

Class Name	Year Group	Arrival	Departure
Tufted Duck	Reception / Year 1	9.00am	2.55pm
Little Egret	Year 2	8.55am	3.00pm
Lapwing	Year 3	8.50am	3.10pm
Skylark	Year 4 / Year 5	8.45am	3.20pm
Hobby	Year 5 / Year 6	8.40am	3.15pm

Adherence to the above timings is critical for smooth operation and the promotion of safety. Parents are reminded to avoid gathering at the gate.

Parents with more than one child at Beckley School

If your children are in different classes their designated start and finish times may differ. However, for your convenience, you are invited to select any one of their allocated arrival and departure times in order to transport your children together and as best suits your family. Once selected, your nominated arrival and departure times should remain consistent, and only one morning and afternoon visit to and from school should be made by parents. If different to being dropped off at the latest time allocated and collected at the earliest time allocated, please let us know which start and finish timings you have chosen via office@beckleyschool.org.

Arrival Protocol

- Teachers will remain in their classrooms ready to receive the children
- Staff will open the front gate at each published arrival time (see above), not before
- Children arrive at their allotted time, through the front gate and go directly to their classroom
- Parents must **not** enter the school site (one parent per family maximum and no non school-aged siblings where possible), but say goodbye to their children at the front gate
- We expect all parents to wear face coverings when arriving at school (recognising that a minority of people are exempt from wearing face coverings for medical reasons)
- Children will wash their hands with soap and running water immediately upon arrival
- Pupils arriving by school transport will be met by staff and escorted to classrooms

Departure Protocol

- Just before each departure time (see above), staff will lead children (suitably spaced) to the front playground where each child will stand on a painted cross in the 'quiet area'
- When all children are in position, staff will open the front gate and allow parents to enter (one parent per family maximum and no non school-aged siblings where possible)
- **We expect all parents to wear face coverings whilst on school property** (recognising that a minority of people are exempt from wearing face coverings for medical reasons)
- Parents are to each stand on one of the green painted crosses on the front playground
- Staff will release pupils into the care of their parents in a controlled and measured way
- Staff will remind parents who get too close to each other to maintain distance at all times
- Children awaiting school transport will continue to be suitably supervised
- Staff will collect bus children directly from the classrooms and escort them to the bus

School Transport

Where your child uses school transport, the guidance for public transport will not apply. As such, we will be using one bus, under normal timings. Measures are in place to ensure that the vehicle is cleaned regularly and boarding from school will be carefully managed.

Face Coverings

Face coverings will be worn by staff and adult visitors in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas). Children in primary school do not need to wear a face covering.

School Uniform

We will be continuing with our usual school uniform policy. With increased ventilation in classrooms, children are encouraged to wear additional layers on cool days as necessary. The latest advice is that uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, or in any different way to normal.

School Food

The school kitchen will be fully open and will provide school meals to all pupils who book one each morning as usual (including universal infant free school meals and for those who are eligible for FSM). Following a successful trial at school, we are delighted to confirm that we **will be returning to hot meal provision** on Monday 8th March. Lunches will be eaten in classrooms to avoid groups of children mixing. As usual, all children may bring their own packed lunch in from home if they wish.

Curriculum

The Government has set out clear guidelines on what schools are expected to teach when pupils return in March. We will continue to provide an ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects. There will need to be changes to some subjects - such as PE and music - to ensure they can be delivered as safely as possible. There will be no peripatetic music tuition until at least after Easter, volunteers to school will continue to be heavily restricted and assembly gatherings are again prohibited (although class worship and virtual whole-school assemblies will take place).

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club and After School Club provision **will resume in full** from Monday 8th March in order to support parents to work, attend education and access medical care. Please book places for Wraparound care via the usual method on the ParentMail system. You will be notified by email when the booking window opens later today.

Important Points of Note

- No teddies, toys, or non-essential resources are to be brought in from home
- Reading books and PE kits are permitted to travel between home and school
- Pencil cases and stationery for each pupil will continue to be provided by school
- Water bottles should be supplied from home and taken home **daily** to be washed and refilled
- Please refrain from parking at the top of Church Street, so as not to inhibit school transport
- If you borrowed a Chromebook or reading books, please return them on Monday 8th March

Please do take adequate time to talk to your children about what to expect on Monday 8th March.

On a personal note and on behalf of the staff, we are absolutely delighted that all pupils will be returning to school and very much look forward to having everyone back together again.

Best wishes



Mark Szortowski
Headteacher