



15th June 2020

Important Update

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Thank you all once again for your tremendous effort and support in helping your children to continue to learn at home. We are really aware that trying to work from home and juggle the children's learning is a challenge and increasingly difficult as demands from your own workplaces begin to ramp up again (if they ever reduced!)

I wanted to try to explain to you how school is currently working so that you might better understand why it is not feasible for us to bring back more pupils under the current guidance/ arrangements.

We have approximately 150 children in school now and these pupils are split across 10 "bubble" groups. We have the equivalent of 11 full time teachers and three of these are shielding at home so we have 8 teachers to work face to face with pupils. The three shielding teachers are planning and marking work full time from home and contribute to planning for school learning as well.

Additional to 8 teachers available to us, we have 9 full time teaching assistants. 2 of these teaching assistants work one to one with some of our most vulnerable pupils and so are unable to support wider learning and activities within school.

This leaves us with 8 teachers and 7 teaching assistants. We require 10 adults to operate our 10 bubble groups and further staff to monitor and support home learning for all children in Years 2-5 and some children in Years R, 1 and 6. Then we must monitor and supervise break and lunch times which need to be staggered over a prolonged period to ensure that pupils do not come into too much contact. Break times take about an hour to get through and lunch times an hour and a half. To make this work and ensure that pupils are supervised, staff stay with their bubble group whilst they eat and then take their lunch for 20 minutes. To ensure the playground is safe and properly supervised during this period we require a minimum of 5 adults on duty.

2 staff then provide yoga and dance/ PE sessions for each bubble outdoors or socially distanced inside. This allows for teachers to plan, mark and provide additional support to pupils who are learning at home.

We have a list of pupils we contact regularly to offer support and check in on their well-being and this changes dependent upon the needs of the families and the help and support we feel is needed or the family requests.

We are also doing home visits to vulnerable pupils, dropping off work to families who cannot get to school to collect it and also providing free school meals packs for pupils.

We then need to clean door handles, light switches, desks and other surfaces. This is done across the day by a team of teaching assistants who work their way around the school on rotation.

Pupils in years 2, 3, 4, 5 who are not attending school in key worker groups

We are working on plans to enable pupils in these year groups to have some time in school before the end of term as we feel some face to face contact would be very beneficial for these year groups if possible.



Bransgore Church of England Primary School

Ringwood Road, Bransgore, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 8JH

T: 01425 672272 Fax: 01425 674554 www.bransgoreprimaryschool.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. Paul Brown



To help us develop these plans please let us know (via the school admin email address: **admin@bransgore.hants.sch.uk**) if you wish your child to attend school if some time (however limited) was able to be offered. Once we know numbers we will be back in touch if and when we design a safe and manageable system. Please could you let the school office know if you would like your child to attend by 9am Thursday 18th June.

Best wishes,

Mr. Brown
Headteacher