



PB/LL 13.07.20

Return to School In September

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you are all keeping safe and well and that life feels like it is returning to some form of normality. It has been lovely to see more children in school over the past few weeks and we are now getting excited about welcoming everyone back in September. We have made some plans which we hope will work well but we really need your support and co-operation if we are to keep school safe and avoid closure or partial closure due to C-19 outbreaks. We felt it important to share our plans with you as soon as possible so that we have time to amend and adjust if there are things we have forgotten or that may not work as well as we anticipated.

The new school term will start for pupils on Monday 7th September. On this day everyone will be nervous and there are bound to be some teething troubles so please bear this in mind, be patient and considerate to staff, pupils and each other as you drop your child or children off at school. We will have 350 children to get in and out of school so we really do need you to take your arrival and departure times seriously and once you have dropped your child at school please vacate the car park and area around the school gates as swiftly as possible.

Where possible please walk to school.

We will operate a staggered start to the school day

Pupils will be allocated a group A, B or C. Siblings will be put in the same group. Parents **must** bring their children to school within the 10 minute drop off window. If you miss your window you must wait until group C have been admitted.

- Group A pupils should arrive between 8:40 – 8:50 and should be collected at 3pm.
- Group B pupils should arrive between 8:50 – 9:00 and should be collected at 3.10pm
- Group C pupils should arrive between 9:00 – 9:10 and should be collected at 3.20pm

Pupils in Reception class will enter through the Lions and Tigers gate at the front of school.

Pupils in KS1 will enter through the staff car park gates.

Pupils in key stage 2 should enter school through the church car park gate.

There will be a member of staff on each gate to greet pupils and to help remind people about social distancing and moving away quickly so that we are clear and ready for the next arrivals. Pupils should be collected from the same entrance at the end of school.

We really do need you to arrive on time, rather than too early or a little late and once you have collected your children please move away as soon as possible.



I am sure you understand that this is vital to ensure we distance as much as possible, particularly between adults.

We will be operating on a 4 “bubble” system with pupils mixing in a limited way within their phase group. The four bubbles will be, Reception, Year 1-2, Year 3-4 and Year 5-6. Pupils will remain in their own classes for the majority of the school day but may mix across their phase bubble for phonics and maths interventions and teaching. Other than this pupils will be kept in their own bubble and will not mix with pupils from other parts of the school.

The playground will be zoned to maintain social distance and we will continue to ensure pupils wash their hands regularly throughout the school day as well as teaching them and reminding them about good respiratory hygiene and sharing the “Catch it, bin it, kill it” message from the NHS.

School meals

School meals will be available for pupils if required but these will continue to be a packed lunch rather than a hot school meal. This allows us to feed the children in their class spaces and reduces the risk of cross contamination and pressure on the hall. Cold meals can be prepared in the hall enabling social distancing between our catering staff. All packaging can be disposed of in the bin. You will receive a copy of the school menu later this week by email.

If your child is in KS2 and will be having a school lunch please ensure you inform us by emailing admin@bransgore.hants.sch.uk

School office

The school office will remain closed to parents and so communication should be made via a message to the adult on the gate, phone call or e-mail. All payments should continue to be made online.

School uniform

Pupils should wear their full school uniform every day but they will not be required to bring in a PE kit. Instead we will tell parents the days for PE and we would like the children to be sent in to school on these days in their PE kit. PE kit should be either black or navy leggings or track suit bottoms or shorts, a coloured school PE T-shirt in their house colour and a school sweatshirt. Pupils may wear trainers on PE day. Please ensure that pupils can do their own laces before sending them to school in lace up trainers, Velcro is best for little ones. Please ensure pupils have a light rain coat with them every day as we will be going outside every playtime and as often as possible whenever possible and it may be a bit wet. Wearing PE kit to school on PE days reduces the risk of infection.

Resources and equipment

Pupils will all be issued with their own pencil case of stationery which they will keep in their locker or drawer and take with them around school. Other shared resources used will be cleaned or quarantined after use. Please do not send in any additional resources, toys etc.

Pupils will be allowed to bring reading books to and from school but we will continue to use Google Classroom for spellings and maths home learning to reduce resources going to and from school daily.

At playtimes, pupils will be provided with a box of toys to play with that only their class will use.



Music Lessons

We are still unsure if we will start Music lessons in September, we should receive more guidance on this shortly so will let you know as soon as possible the timetable if lessons will go ahead. It is a little more complicated as our lessons are wind instruments.

Movement around school

Our school is quite small and our circulation spaces very limited so movement in corridors will be staggered and supervised by adults at all times. Pupils will use designated toilets and hand washing will take place at sinks in classrooms. Lockers will be allocated so that they are as close as possible for each phase to access.

Ensuring our school is as safe as possible

If your child complains of feeling ill and is describing C-19 type symptoms (dry cough, sore throat, loss of taste/ smell etc.) **please keep them away from school and have them tested**. Let us know the outcome as soon as you hear. It is important we know, even if pupils test negative. If any member of your family is ill with C-19 type symptoms, please keep your child/ children off until you know the test for other family members was negative. Please let us know when anyone in your family has needed to be tested. Further advice and support about testing can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Please remember, your child may be more anxious about school than normal. If you feel they are feigning illness or feel ill due to anxiety, please send them in. We will support them and it will only get more difficult if they do not get back into routine.

If your child is not well please ensure you contact the school office and leave a detailed explanation of symptoms so we can act as necessary. Please do not say they are just unwell.

Staff will be maintaining social distancing but this will not be possible at all times with children and whilst we will do what we can, children will not always be adequately distanced.

We will not be allowing visitors or volunteers onto the school site except those from specialist services.

We will continue to have worship times but these will be class based rather than whole school.

We will clean and sanitize the school as much as possible throughout the day and soft furnishings will be kept to a minimum.

Pupils in the infant classes will sit on the floor as we cannot fit them all at desks but we will ensure carpets and rugs are regularly cleaned and hand washing will again be a high priority.

Breakfast and after school club

The clubs will operate from September as we are aware that many parents really rely on this provision. They will operate in 4 separate bubbles with a Reception, KS1, lower KS2 and upper KS2 bubble group. This will stretch us to the limit in terms of staffing so please be patient and understanding if we have to "juggle" sometimes and it isn't perfect all the time.

Please email admin@bransgore.hants.sch.uk as soon as possible to book your child in.



Medication

If your child is off colour and you feel that they would need Calpol during the school day, we would ask that you not send them in and they return once they have fully recovered.

If your child needs antihistamines these should be given at home.

If your child requires a prescribed medicine that is needed three times a day then this should be given at home, it would only be given in school if the pupil was staying at school beyond 4pm (perhaps attending an after school club). For medicines needed four times a day, a dose can be given at school (around 11am) and the third dose would only be given at school if they are staying beyond 4pm in an after school club.

Year 5/6 Walking home

If you have a child in Years 5 or 6 and you would like them to be allowed to walk home alone after school please be aware of the different group finish times. We ask that children do not hang around after school waiting for their friends to finish. A permission slip will need to be completed and returned to school which will be emailed out to parents/carers in due course.

After School Clubs (dance, rugby, football, creative writing etc including tennis)

We are currently in discussion with the clubs to see if they are able to follow our guidelines by keeping to the bubble groups. We will notify you as soon as we can about this.

If we have a confirmed case of C-19 in school we will immediately contact our local health protection team and they will guide us through the most up to date advice.

I hope that these measures and this plan makes sense and offers some reassurance to you. I know that you are all supportive and will help us to make the plan work.

Best wishes and stay safe and well,

Mr. Brown and the Bransgore Team