



# **Busill Jones Primary School**

Ashley Road,  
Bloxwich,  
West Midlands  
WS3 2QF

Head Teacher: Mrs. S Field  
Tel: 01922 710700  
Fax: 01922 710705

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you find the following information helpful (There is a lot) and we wish you to be fully informed. The Government have published guidelines for full re-opening of schools in September. We are well ahead because the Risk Assessment that we used before lockdown will give us a head start in the preparations.

## **Things that you need to know for September 2020**

The children return on **Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020**.

It will be **mandatory to send your child back to school**. We will start to measure attendance again and intervention will re-start including fixed penalty notices for non-attendance.

### **Safety**

**Covid-19 has not gone away**. It will still be in the community in September and beyond, so we cannot let our guard down. We will keep social distancing to 1 metre + or 2 metres wherever possible.

**Social distancing** between pupils will not always be possible in classes of up to 30.

Wherever we can, we will keep them as far away as possible but space is limited.

Teachers will teach with **2 metres distance when addressing the whole class**, but when helping children with their work, they will need to be closer.

Year 1 to 6 will have **front facing desks** to avoid tables groups of children facing each other.

**Existing measures** such as hand washing, “catch it bin it kill it”, moving around school using external doors, good ventilation, minimising touch points and regular cleaning will remain. There will be **no assemblies** or mass gatherings including close lining up.

A “class” is now a “**bubble**” meaning that we will prevent mixing with other bubbles as far as possible. That means staggering lunchtimes and playtimes. We are however allowed to move staff between bubbles. At **lunchtime** year groups will become a bubble with their own part of the playground - that is unavoidable because there is not enough playground space for every class to remain apart.

There are set procedures with Public Health England **if anyone tests positive** for Coronavirus. It is possible that a year group or class will not be allowed to come to school, and self-isolate.

Playtimes and lunchtime play will take place in **year group “bubbles”**. This will be limiting but will prevent cross infection across the school.

Strictly keep your child at home if showing any **symptoms** of Covid-19 symptoms which are among others: - loss of taste or smell, high temperature, persistent cough. Failure to do so may result in the whole class being sent home and having to isolate.

If showing symptoms as above, you must get your child **tested** and tell us the results.

If ill, **collect your child immediately**. Isolate children showing Covid-19 symptoms for 7 days and other family members for 14 days (even if they have tested negative – not all tests offer 100% reliability).

If you are showing symptoms please **do not visit school**.

If your child is **medically vulnerable** consult your GP or medical practitioner e.g. consultant about returning to school. Royal College of Paediatricians and Child Health gives useful advice on this. <https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/news-events/news/statement-schools-re-opening>

Maintain your own **adult social distance** of 2 metres while around school.

Children should wash their hands in hot water for 20 seconds **before leaving for school and on returning home**.

### **Start of the School Day**

**Be punctual!** We will not tolerate children regularly being delivered or picked up late. It compromises our ability to run a smooth operation.

Arrangements at the beginning of the school day and end of the day have already been shared but will be shared again during the six weeks holiday to remind you. The staggered times for the bubbles and the one way system have worked well and avoid overcrowding.

On drop off **“kiss and go”** during parting, do not linger or look back for more kisses or waves showing your own reticence, which the children will pick up on. If they are still upset we will ring you later on. A few sniffles are to be expected. We have people who can be called if it is more serious.

There will now only be **one member of staff on each gate** as pre lockdown and holding hands and physical contact may be inappropriate given the current circumstances.

Please **park responsibly** and be prepared to walk further. The new arrangements will put more pressure on Ashley Road. Please do not use the **staff car park** for child safety reasons.

### **Testing and Assessment**

Reception baseline tests will not be undertaken this year. Year 2 tests and assessments, Year 4 times tables tests and Year 6 SATs return. There will be an additional phonics check in Year 2 seeing as the children missed out on this in Year 1.

### **Curriculum**

We will be running a **“Recovery Curriculum”** with more focus on the basic knowledge required to succeed, much more revision, more pastoral and wellbeing lessons, and we will base this on actual need via audits, rather than guessing.

### **Other Services**

**Breakfast Club** will re-open the first week back. This will be £2.50 per day and you will need to pay using your Parent Pay account.

**After school clubs 3.40-4.30pm (free of charge)** more details to follow as to what the choices there are and days of clubs.

**Wrap Around Care 3.30-5.45pm** Some parents have requested a Wrap Around Facility to enable them to return to work. There will be a charge for this service. More information to follow in September.

**Visitors** will be kept to a minimum but there will be certain people coming onto the school premises for caretaking, cleaning and health and safety visits.

## Communication

Please notify absences via a **telephone call 01922 710700**, on the first morning of the absence.

**Email us** at [postbox@busilljonesprimary.co.uk](mailto:postbox@busilljonesprimary.co.uk) to tell us anything or for an appointment to discuss issues. Things can no longer be discussed at the beginning or end of the school day when getting people on and off site quickly and efficiently is vital. We have got to keep the main reception area clear, following social distancing guidelines.

Parent / carer meetings with the teacher will be **by appointment only** and contact by email is preferable.

For serious safeguarding matters the **“Worry box”** on the website operates 24/7 but is a one way system and we cannot reply.

## Equipment

Only send a **lunchbox with labelled water bottle, book bag and coat**. Do not send rucksacks or shoulder bags or you will be asked by staff on the gate to take them away with you. This is because cloakrooms encourage crowding – all equipment will be kept in class and there is no space for large bags.

Please do provide a **coat each day** - preferably waterproof. We would like to take them outside even if the weather is dull and rainy.

**Send your child in PE kit** on their PE / Games days in Year 1 to 6 (details to follow). This should include track suit bottoms or “joggers” so their legs do not get cold during the day. Individual teachers will let you know when this is. This stops having to mix bubbles when girls and boys change separately in Y4 to 6 and also prevents pupils having to use cloakrooms.

We now have **hand gel** in all classrooms plus additional hand gel stations around the school so there is no need to send this in.

The Government stipulate that children are not permitted to wear **face coverings** because they are unlikely to manage them well, causing more risks to them than not wearing it. From what we have seen already, this is good advice and children take them on and off all day touching the fabric which raises the risk of infection. Children arriving in face coverings will be asked to remove them.

## Things to do before September

**Please limit other childcare providers** e.g. wraparound provision. Hopping between different provision increases the likelihood of cross infection.

**Replenish uniform** which will return to pre-lockdown standards apart from the PE kit below. See the uniform list on the school website and Facebook page if you are unsure.

Ensure that the children get back into a good routine of **normal bedtime and getting up** time to coincide with school hours. Many children returned to school in June very tired.

Also ensure that your child gets into the habit of **eating breakfast at the normal time** and has the most important meal of the day before coming to school. Children should not come back to school with **dyed hair** – this has crept in during lockdown.

Download “**Microsoft Teams**” app onto your laptop, ipad, phone or device and secure a way of docking or standing this up, so children can work with hands free. If we return to lockdown, we will probably run a combination of Oak Academy, White Rose and our own interaction with you. We would phase this through the day so multiple devices would not be needed.

### **Optional but recommended things that you should do**

Please read the amended **Behaviour Policy**. School will not run as it did and there will be different rewards and consequences for certain types of behaviour around safety. We will have specific consequences for pupils or parents who deliberately put other’s health at risk.

Please read the updated documents in the **Covid-19 Information and Advice** section of our website.

***Thank you** for all of your support this term and many thanks to staff for their bravery, diligence and good humour in the face of adversity. Pre lockdown seems such a long time ago and we have learned a lot about the good in people. Thank you for completing the surveys which showed that a range of approaches suited different people.*

*Pupils eligible in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 6 have been offered a place since June 1<sup>st</sup> due to strategic planning - your emails to us really helped. This has not been the same in other schools.*

*I understand just how difficult home learning has been – pressure on computer time, parents/carers working from home, glitches in logons and printing, unfamiliarity in methods of teaching and children really just seeing you as parents not their teachers. I have also heard many sad stories of financial hardship, loss and unmanageable circumstances. I wish to thank the Busill Jones community for your resilience and patience throughout the whole of lockdown!*

*I do hope the children have a good summer holiday and above all get outdoors and play and read for pleasure in down time. We look forward to having you all back in September for what will be a “catch up” term where we reintroduce routines.*

*We will periodically pick up emails over the summer if there are any emergencies, or things that we need to know and equally, if there are any other government changes we will let you know as soon as we can using our usual channels of communication.*

Yours sincerely,

**S Field**

Mrs. S Field  
Headteacher