



*Inspiring pupils to reach their full potential in our
Christian Family through
trust, respect and care for all.*

Our School value this half term is Truthfulness



Benington C of E Primary School

Newsletter 14th July 2020

Dear Parents

I am writing to explain the arrangements for September in line with current government guidance. It is our plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term. Returning to school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing. Time out of school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development. This impact can affect both current levels of learning and children's future ability to learn.

Timings

We will be extending our rolling start time to allow for a staggered start and end time to the day. This is to limit congestion and contact between groups on the way into school and will be run on a trial basis. Children can come to school from 8:30 to 8:55 so they are ready to start at 9:00. Home time will be from 3:00-3:30. All children should still be in school for at least 6 hours and 15 minutes. If possible your child should enter the playground alone to limit the number of people entering the playground. Parents will not be allowed to cross the threshold and enter school under any circumstances.

Organisation

As much as possible we will be

- grouping children together
- avoiding contact between groups
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible
- Parents will not be allowed inside school

Uniform and Belongings

Uniform does not need to be cleaned any more often than usual. Please ensure it is clearly labelled. We will provide individual sets of pencils, etc. Please do not bring pencil cases to school. Water bottles must be brought into school as these will be used for lunch time as well as during the school day.

Prevention:

- 1) We will aim to minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- 2) We will ask children to clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- 3) We will ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- 4) We have introduced enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- 5) We will minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
- 6) Where necessary, we will wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

Face Masks

Public Health England does not (based on current evidence) recommend the use of face coverings in schools. This evidence will be kept under review. They are not required in schools as pupils and staff are mixing in consistent groups, and because misuse may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. There may also be negative effects on communication and thus education. If you still want your child to wear a mask you must instruct them not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing them. They must wash their hands immediately on arrival (as is the case for all pupils), dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.

Clubs and Assemblies

We will not be running any assemblies and children will eat lunch in the classroom in order to minimise contact across groups. We will not be offering any after school clubs initially.

Illness

We will not be able to administer medication as we need to minimise contact. If your child is ill we will ask you to come and collect them. Please ensure all your contact details are up to date. If you or anyone in your household tests positive for Covid-19 you must let the office know immediately.

Lunches

Herts Catering will be offering hot meals or your child can bring in a packed lunch. Please see the attached menu for this term. Lunches can be booked on the day.

This is all subject to change, in line with the latest government updates.

Thank you for your understanding.

Mrs Tyler

