



Burnt Tree Primary School

Hill Rd, Tividale, Oldbury, B69 2LN

Tel 0121 557 2967 Fax 0121 522 4980

'Where everyone matters'

Head Teacher Mrs. J. Bayliss



Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you are all well. Thank you for all of your hard work with your children during lockdown and for supporting their home learning online and in the work packs.

As you are all aware from the news, schools are fully reopening for all children from the 8th March. This means that all year groups will return to school from Monday 8th March and attendance is compulsory. Remote learning will not continue as the expectation is that all children will be in school.

If there is a positive case of the virus within a class, children and staff will be asked to isolate and remote learning will take place whilst the children are asked to remain at home. This will be in the form of a work pack and online. If this occurs, you will be notified immediately and you will be given further information. If your child has to isolate due to a contact outside of their class bubble, then a work pack will be provided and all of the learning platforms on WONDE will be available. There will not be any online live teaching due to the teachers being in school and teaching classes.

Our priority remains the safety and wellbeing of children and their families, as well as that of the staff and their families. We know that many children will be excited at the prospect of returning to school, that they are looking forward to seeing their teachers and friends but some will feel anxious after being at home for this length of time. We have received specific guidance from the DfE and Sandwell LA that we need to comply with to ensure that schools are as safe as they can be, but as a result, school will continue to be different to what the children are used to and will be very similar to the Autumn term. I want to make sure that all parents and carers are aware of the procedures and routines that will be in place to ensure that school is as safe as it can be.

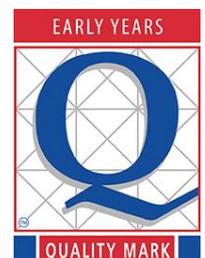
Children will be taught in class 'bubbles', lunchtimes and breaktimes will be in year group 'bubbles'. However, children may come across a child from another bubble in the toilets or in the corridor, but this will be limited and monitored as much as possible. Passing in the corridor is considered a low risk. School uniform must be worn and all children will need a PE kit as PE lessons will take place as normal.

Children should bring a filled water bottle. This needs to be named please so that children can easily recognise their own bottle and do not touch or drink out of bottles belonging to other children. Fruit is available for EYFS and KS1 children. Toast is available for years 1-6, please pay £1 on a Monday to your child's class teacher. KS2 children (years 3-6) are allowed to bring a healthy snack if they do not wish to buy toast, eg a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. Crisps and chocolate bars are not allowed.

Health and Hygiene

Children should bring their own pack of tissues and a small hand gel/sanitiser for their own use if required. All classrooms have been fitted with soap dispensers and all children will be supervised to wash their hands regularly throughout the day. All children will also have to wash their hands before leaving the classroom and on re-entering the classroom.

Additional cleaning will continue throughout the day, with regular cleaning of touch points – door handles, tables, etc.





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Arriving/leaving school

Parents/carers must wear face masks when entering school premises.

School is open for drop off between 8.45 and 9.00 and for pick up between 3.10 and 3.20. Please do not arrive early and congregate in the playground. Years 5 and 6 will come out first at 3.10, then please make your way to pick up any younger children. Please do not tap on doors or windows, staff will open the door at 3.15. You have until 3.20 to arrive to pick up your child. Starlings should be collected from the dance studio door to keep the path clear on the corner. Please collect year 4 children before continuing into the playground to collect other children or collect them on your way back round after collecting younger children. You **MUST** stick to the one way system. Many parents appear to want to arrive early in the morning and when collecting their children, I advise you to please try and avoid arriving early in order to minimise groups congregating in the playground. Please stay behind the lines painted on the playground. Can you please not walk close to classroom doors after collecting children. There is plenty of space to walk across the far side of the playground.

One-way system

There is a one-way system in place for all year groups. On entering school, please keep to the left and use the driveway, everyone is to use the gate into the playground at the side of the KS2 building. If you have children in more than one key stage please drop off and collect KS2 first. All parents are to follow the one-way system around the school and exit through the gate by early years. You will then cross the car park and exit school via the path.

A pupil has coronavirus symptoms – what happens next?

If a child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms, they should be tested as soon as possible and stay off school until they have a result. Whilst waiting for a test result the whole family should self-isolate and not leave the house. If a positive case is confirmed, please let school know as soon as possible so that we are able to contact public health and put procedures into place to isolate anyone who has been in contact with your child. Your child and family must isolate for 10 days from the onset of the symptoms.

If a class is asked to isolate, children will be provided with remote learning in the form of live lessons and work packs.

We will do our very best to keep your children safe – we will try to ensure social distancing wherever possible. However, I need to be honest with you and say that we cannot guarantee this or eliminate all risk. The government guidance acknowledges how difficult it will be for young children to remain two metres apart from each other and the staff. This is an extremely difficult time for everyone – for parents and staff with everyone trying to juggle the demands of supporting their children, often alongside going to work as usual or working from home. We appreciate your continued support in these strange times.

Kind Regards

J Bayliss
Head Teacher



SCHOOL
MEMBER



Our Ref: CW/DC

All Sandwell Parents and Carers

1st March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, thank you for the support you have shown to your children and our schools during the latest lockdown period. Your efforts to keep children safe and to also educate them at home has been really appreciated.

As you will know, the Government announced that schools will begin to fully reopen to all pupils from 8 March. This will mean that it is once again mandatory for all children to attend school unless they are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) and have been advised to stay at home.

This week, schools are preparing their plans for full reopening and some will be taking a phased approach to the return of all children. This will allow pupils to settle into school again and, for Secondary age children, will allow for schools to conduct rapid testing of pupils without symptoms in years 7 to 13.

Each school will have a different approach to the phased return of pupils and they will write to you separately to explain this. This will include any wraparound care service they may offer.

We know that children are very keen to get back to school and their teachers will be equally happy to return to face to face teaching. However, schools will continue to have to operate all control systems to keep children and staff as safe as possible.

If you have a Secondary age child you will know that there is a strong recommendation that they wear a face covering in class as well as in communal areas. We ask that you support this and the rapid testing programme to help reduce transmission of the virus.

[IL1: PROTECT]

Chris Ward, Director of Education, Skills and Employment
EDUCATION, SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT DIRECTORATE

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, The Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE

Web: www.sandwell.gov.uk

All children are still required to self-isolate if they or their family have Covid-19 symptoms (a new continuous cough, temperature or changes or loss in taste and smell) or test positive.

If you are collecting or dropping off children from school, we would ask that you continue to follow social distancing rules and wear a face covering in areas where many people are gathered.

If your child is travelling to and from school on their own, please remind them of the need to maintain social distancing rules, and to be mindful that lockdown laws are still in place. This is for their own safety and wellbeing.

Schools and Neighbourhood Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers will be patrolling in and around all schools to engage with children where necessary. If your child has any fears or concerns please direct them to the www.fearless.org website.

We hope that plans to reintegrate all children into school life go smoothly; however, if you or your children need assistance or reassurance I know that our schools will be keen to help.

Finally, we have developed an online survey so that we can hear from parents and children about the reopening of schools to all children. It will help us to understand what works well for families. The online survey is now open and can be found at www.sandwell.gov.uk/backtoschool . The closing date for responses is Friday 5 March.

Yours sincerely



Chris Ward
Director of Education, Skills and Employment

[IL1: PROTECT]

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