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School Business Manager: Shinaed Ellington

Headteacher: Phyllis Sternberg BA (Hons), NPQH
Assistant Head: Faye Morris BA (Hons), PGCE

Friday, 26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Plans for Full re-opening on Monday, 8th March 2021

As you are aware, the Government have made it clear that all children will return to school on **March, 8th 2021**. We are exceptionally pleased to be able to welcome everyone back. It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, well-being and wider development. Missing out on more time in the classroom risks children falling further behind. We will continue to follow our Attendance Policy, which you can access via our website. Please be assured that everything we do is to keep us all safe and to minimise the Covid-19 risk. Many measures are the same as the September 2020 return and the school community did exceptionally well following the measures but please read below as a reminder.

Hygiene measures

There are sinks outside each pair of classes, and we also have sinks in the toilets. Children will wash their hands with soap on entering the school from outside, after using the toilet and before lunch.

There are also hand sanitiser dispensers outside every classroom for children to use throughout the day.

There are posters above all the sinks with clear instructions about how to wash properly and staff will teach the children again at the start of term and remind them weekly so that it becomes routine and habitual. Every class will have tissues and bins with lids so children can 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.

The school is cleaned daily by our cleaners and rubbish is removed. One cleaner will be on site during the middle of the day to carry out mid-day cleaning of essential areas.

Sharing resources between bubbles will be kept to a minimum, and if this does happen, these resources will be cleaned.

Curriculum

On the children's return on **Monday, 8th March**, time will be spent working on re-connecting children with school and friends. Activities planned will encourage the children back into work using their basic skills and creativity. It will also incorporate some mindfulness, team building, art and well-being.

We will start the curriculum as normal, and adapt our teaching to meet the needs of children. Ongoing assessments will enable us to identify gaps in learning and put in place

support to enable children to catch-up. There are many resources being produced to support schools with catch-up which we will access as needs be.

School Dinners

School dinners will resume as normal. The menu will be on the website. Lunchtime will be carried out on a rota and staggered system to allow for the 'bubbles' to be kept together both whilst eating and whilst playing outside and mixing of year groups will not occur.

Wrap around Care – 'Little Acorns'

Little Acorns will resume its normal service of breakfast and after school provision as of **Monday 8th March.**

Start and finish times:

7.45a.m.

5.45 p.m.

School Times

We will continue with staggered start and finish times, to ease the likelihood of congestion at these times of the day. We would kindly ask that the school grounds are not used as a 'catch up' meeting place and that we all follow the rule of '**Drop and Go**' – drop your children at the required time and go as quickly as you can. This is again, to ease any large groups forming.

After the **first 2 days** we will ask **Y1** parents to leave their children at the gate and let them walk into school independently. As a general rule, always walk on the left when you are entering school grounds.

Children now will refrain from scooting or riding their bikes on the school grounds. Once they arrive at the gate they will need to dismount.

	Start Time:	Finish Time
Nursery	8.45am	11.45 am all day 2:55 pm
Reception	8.55am	3.05 pm
Year 1	9.05am	3.15 pm
Year 2	8.50am	3.00 pm
Year 3	9.10am	3.05 pm
Year 4	9.00am	3.15 pm
Year 5	8.50am	3.00 pm
Year 6	8.45am	2.55pm

Other Information

- There will be no whole school assembly in the hall, this will be carried out in classrooms via our 'Microsoft Teams' learning tool.
- There will be minimal visitors in the first half term but our Governors and Merton Education Partner will support us in monitoring our return to school.
- Please continue to ring or email the School Office if you need to contact us about anything.
- There will be no after-school clubs at present
- Children should wear their full uniform as normal except on PE days when children can wear their school PE kits (Beecholme badged t-shirt or blue plain t-shirt, dark shorts and plimsolls/trainers). All children can wear full PE kit on a Wednesday
- We strongly encourage you to send your child into school with additional layers (t-shirts under shirt etc) as due to the importance of ventilation in our risk assessment, a large number of windows will be open in classrooms and throughout the school.

Our continued thanks go to you and everyone within our school. Your positivity and encouragement has been greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing you on 8th March.

Best wishes,

Mrs Phyllis Sternberg