

26th June 2020

Guidance for Parents/Carers

- Familiarise yourself with the drop off and pick up points and times for your child's bubble
- There should be only one person dropping/collecting your child at school. If you cannot do this and need to bring another child with you please ensure that your child remains next to you at all times. Children should not be allowed to run around
- Wherever possible, please drop and go without escorting your child. Staff will be available to take your child.
- Only send a packed lunch with your child – no other bag or equipment – make sure a water bottle is easily accessible
- Please return Maths No Problem Books and reading books on the first day
- No school uniform - suitable clothing for indoor learning and outdoor play which should ideally be washed at the end of the day when returning home. Trainers or pumps are preferable.
- Please ensure that they are sent to school wearing long lasting sun protection and bring a hat
- Drop off/pick up times must be kept punctually. If you are running late, it is vital that you call ahead so that we can give you instructions about where to go
- When collecting/arriving, do not gather in groups – stay 2m apart at all times, markers have been put down to indicate 2m distance
- Do not come into the main office entrance – please either call the school on 01299 403796 or email office@bewdleyprimary.worcs.sch.uk if you wish to ask a question or make an appointment (for example, if you need to bring in and sign medication forms)
- Key Worker parents or parents of vulnerable children, please show yourself to the office staff at the outside window and they will call down for your child. If you cannot see anyone in the office, please phone the school to notify us that you are there
- Pupils are not to bring mobile phones to school during this time – we are avoiding all unnecessary transmission of items from home/school
- The school car park remains closed to all parents and carers.
- Please label any clothing that is likely to be removed (e.g. jumpers/coats) as we will not be able to maintain a central lost property box

As you already know, Bewdley Primary has been open to the children of Key Workers and vulnerable children since 23rd March. Children in nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 were then able to return from 1st June.

You will find below government guidance regarding children returning to school. It is correct, as of today's date.

PPE

The guidance states that “the majority of staff in education settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a distance of 2 metres from others”.

The occasions where PPE is needed are for children whose care “routinely already involved the use of PPE due to intimate care needs” (e.g. gloves for nappy changing) or if a youngster becomes unwell with coronavirus symptoms and needs “direct care until they can return home”. When supporting these pupils - face masks will be available for the supervising adult if a distance of two meters cannot be maintained, with gloves and an apron worn if contact is necessary.

Social Distancing – 2 metres distance

The guidance admits that early years and primary pupils cannot be expected to follow the social distancing rule of remaining two metres apart from each other. Therefore, schools are advised work through a “hierarchy of measures”, that are:

- avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
- frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices
- regular cleaning of settings
- minimising contact and mixing

If schools do this, alongside regular hand cleaning, hygiene and cleaning measures, then the “risk of transmission will be lowered”, Public Health England states.

“brief, transitory contact, such as passing in a corridor, is low risk”.

The school will ensure that drop off and collection will be staggered using several entrances/exits so that parents do not have to gather in a group. Parents will not be allowed into school – contact with staff will need to be via email or phone - and will be limited to areas outside the school to allow for drop off and collection.

Class Organisation

The guidance says classes should, “normally be split in half, with no more than 15 pupils per small group (if possible) and one teacher (and, if needed, a teaching assistant)”. We are aiming for less than 15 per group/classroom.

Teaching assistants may be allocated to lead a group, working under the direction of a teacher, if there are shortages.

Desks will be spaced “as far apart as possible”, however, the nature of the learning in Reception and Nursery means that children will not be sitting at tables for the majority of the time and will be in closer contact than the 2 metres (it is expected that there will be some actual physical contact between pupils and staff although we will do our best to minimise this.)

Due to the small group sizes, all the classrooms across the school will need to be utilised. All teaching staff who are able to come into school at this time (i.e. those not shielding) will be needed to work with a group so it is possible that your child will not be taught by their usual class teacher in their normal classroom.

Groups will be sent home for self-isolation if there is a positive test

Pupils or teachers with symptoms will be able to get tested. Where that test is positive, guidance states “the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days”. This will be the class group that they are assigned to.

It is important to note, that:

“The other household members of that group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.”

If other cases are detected, Public Health England’s local health protection teams will conduct a “rapid investigation” with the potential for the whole class or year group asked to self-isolate.

Assign the same teacher/staff member to each group and class

Pupils should be in the same small groups “at all times each day”, with different groups stopped from mixing. Staff should also ensure the same teachers are assigned to each group, however, this may not always be possible due to job-share situations, staff absence or staff release time for planning and preparation. We will obviously minimise the number of adults and pupils each group have contact with. Once pupils are assigned to a group, unless there is an emergency reason, they will not be moved to another group.

Each group will use the same classroom or area throughout the day, with a “thorough cleaning of the rooms at the end of the day”. We will seat the children at the same place (wherever possible) each day and each child will be provided with their own set of equipment. Resources around the classroom will be minimised to prevent the need for cleaning these but all equipment used will be cleaned at the end of each day or when a new group uses it. Whenever possible children will be taught outside, however, we will maintain distancing from other groups learning outside. Weather permitting the children will picnic with their group at lunchtime.

Corridors

We will maintain our walking to one side down the corridor and limit the number of children in transition at any one time. We will ensure that toilets don't become crowded by limiting the number of pupils using them at one time.

The hall and sports facilities used for lunch and exercise will be at “half capacity” or less.