



BOURNMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Wider School Opening from 1st June 2020

Following the recent government announcement regarding a phased return to school for some pupils, we have been working closely to establish what is right for our school and planning accordingly. The council is supporting schools in the county and have provided a risk assessment, which is designed to put the health and safety of children first. The staff have been working extremely hard to prepare the building and make the necessary changes. Everyone has taken a key role in this as we realise how vital it is. I am very grateful for their continued commitment and extreme professionalism under these difficult circumstances.

Parents should be aware that these plans may be subject to change at short notice as further guidance becomes available from the government or changes are needed within school to ensure we meet the required safety standards. Following our planning and risk assessment, we have decided that the following approach best suits the needs of children and families at our school.

It is anticipated that unless the government guidance changes, **we will open on 1st June to Year 1 and Year 6 for full days Monday to Friday**. We have looked at how to organise the teaching spaces and are able to offer the required social distancing in classrooms for these year groups.

We are offering **full days Monday to Friday for our Reception children but this will be for mornings only**. We are offering mornings only so children can access school and we can maintain the focus on social distancing for this shorter period. It is unfortunate that due to the necessary distancing, the classrooms are formally set out with desks separated and some children will initially find this daunting. However, this is necessary to meet the safety requirements.

We are not opening nursery from 1st June and will delay the start for all nursery children until we have established if it is safe for them to return. Nursery children can join at a later date when we can ensure that we can offer the necessary social distancing in the separate areas in the school.

Your support and understanding are greatly appreciated during this wider opening of schools. We know that for parents who are eligible to send their children to school, this is a very difficult decision to make. I have included a list of Questions and Answers that may offer more information but we will respect and support your decision at this time.

Yours sincerely,

L A Snowdon

Mrs Laura Snowdon (Headteacher)

Q and A Information regarding wider opening of schools

Please see the following link for Department for Education Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools>

Which children can come to school at Bournmoor Primary?

From 1st June children in Year 1 and Year 6 can come to school for full days (Mon-Fri) and Reception can come to school for mornings only (Mon-Fri). Nursery will not come in on 1st June and will return at a later date.

What time will they start and finish?

To help get the children into school safely we will have to amend the drop off and pick up times. We can only allow **one** parent on the yard with their child who is being dropped off at school or collected.

Year Group	Start time	Finish time
Reception	8.45am	11.45am
Year 1	9.00am	3.00pm
Year 6	9.15am	3.15pm

How will children enter and leave school?

- All children/parents must come to school through the side (infant) gate.
- Clear 2m lines have been marked on the ground to allow one parent to come in, drop off and leave.
- All parents must then walk up the ramp and leave via the top (yard) gate.
- Please come in and leave promptly to allow the next parent to come in.

- Collection of children in Year 1 and Year 6 will be from the yard at the above times.
- Please arrive at the correct time and leave promptly to ensure that we can keep the one parent collecting the child 2 metres apart (markings are on the yard 2m apart).
- Collection of children from Reception will be outside the infant porch where 2 metre markings have been put on the ground. Please enter through the side gate and leave by the top (yard) gate.

Will teachers and teaching assistants be on the yard?

All teachers and teaching assistants will be in their classrooms to ensure that when children come in they can follow the social distancing guidance. Teachers will not be available at the end of the school day as their priority is to get the children safely out of the classroom. The safest way to contact school, and maintain social distancing, is to phone and leave a message or use the 'contact us' form on our website.

What if my child becomes upset walking into school after such a long absence?

Mrs Snowdon will be on the entry gate and will try to encourage children in. However, we know that after such a long absence some children may be upset and therefore we understand if you have to leave via the top gate and try again at another point during the week. To keep everyone safe entering school will seem different at first but we know children will become familiar with the new routines.

How will the classes be organised?

Staff have been setting up the classrooms with fewer desks to allow seating for a maximum of 15 children and spacing them 2 metres apart. It is important that we follow the Department for Education guidance on returning to school therefore Reception children, Year 1 and Year 6 children will be with their own cohorts and not mix with each other.

Will my child be encouraged to wash their hands?

Yes, regular handwashing is essential to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Staff will ensure that children wash their hands frequently and ensure hygiene is a priority in school. Please do not send your child in with their own hand gel as we will provide our own. No items can be brought in from home to reduce spread of infection except a named water bottle.

How will dinners and breaks be organised?

Children in Year 1 and Year 6 will remain in their year groups to take breaks together and have lunch together. We have created 'zones' in the grounds to ensure different years groups don't mix. Children will have a packed lunch which will be brought to them in their classroom area or outside zone (weather permitting). This will prevent all children being in the hall (even at different times) to reduce risk of infection.

Does my child need to wear school uniform?

That will be down to individual choice as some children may not fit into their uniform after a prolonged break. We ask that children wear tops with sleeves that can be rolled up to they can wash their hands, sensible shoes for outdoor learning and also no jewellery, watches etc.

What will my child be learning and how will this be organised?

As far as possible we will try to offer broad range of educational opportunities. This will include supporting children who need help to catch up as well as supporting Y6 as part of their transition.

What happens if my child doesn't attend school?

The Department for Education has stated that schools cannot fine parents for non-attendance. However, if your child does not attend school (and they are in one of the year groups able to return) we would request that you let us know that they will not be in. We are not tracking attendance using our usual systems but would allow us to know how many to expect in school. Your support with this is appreciated.

Will children have their own equipment and can they bring things in from home?

We have ordered additional stationary and equipment so each child can have their own personal items to use e.g. pencil, pen etc. No items can be brought in from home, except a named water bottle, to ensure that each child only uses the school's equipment to reduce infection.

How will the school office be managed safely for visitors and parents?

Parents are politely requested to only contact school via the telephone on or via our website 'Contact Us' section. If it is essential that you come to the office then please use the 2 metre markings as your safety guide. Only one person will be allowed in the office foyer at a time and we politely ask you to respect our 2 metres distance rule.

What if my child has additional needs?

For pupils with education health and care (EHC) plans, it may not be possible to provide the full range of provision set out in the plan, and it may be necessary to make different arrangements to support children. We can work with external agencies to support pupils with special educational needs and disability (SEND).

Can I still drop things off at school for my child?

We would politely request that no items are brought to school and office staff have been instructed to only accept items that are essential (e.g. medicines that cannot be taken at home).

How are we ensuring school is clean?

We have continued to carry out extensive cleaning of the school whilst being open to key worker children which includes:

- soap for sinks, and where there is no sink nearby, hand sanitiser in rooms/learning environments
- disposable paper towels
- cleaning products
- sanitising wipes for wiping some equipment
- additional emptying of bins
- cordoning off areas and marking floors
- In addition, we encourage consistency on hygiene and children keeping to their own group and regular handwashing.

What about if my child needs first aid?

We continue to have our trained first aid staff in school. We will keep a small supply of wipes and plasters in classes for very minor issues that can be safely dealt with within the classroom area. If a child needs more immediate first aid then our usual procedures apply where an adult with PPE would support the child, communication with parents (via First Aid Slip home or telephone call by office staff).

Will staff wear PPE?

The Department for Education states that staff are not required to wear PPE unless they are working with children and cannot maintain social distancing. We have PPE equipment in school for all staff who would require it.

What happens if a child/adult in school shows Covid-19 symptoms?

- If anyone has a cough/temperature/feels unwell at school, they must be sent home. They will need to self-isolate for 14 days, or until tested negative.
- If a child is waiting to be collected, they should be kept in a room on their own (or supervised depending on their age) with the door closed and a window open. If this child/adult needs to go to toilet before being collected, they should use a separate toilet and it must be thoroughly cleaned/disinfected afterwards before anyone else can use it.
- PPE should be worn by staff working with children displaying symptoms.
- If a child or adult shows symptoms and tests positive for CoVid-19, then the whole group that the children was in must be sent home and they must self-isolate for 14 days.
- Public Health England advice will be sought on next steps or possible closure.

The government have recently brought in testing for Covid-19 for children over the age of 5 so this would be available for parents to book and attend at the nearest testing centre.