



BOURNMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Laura Snowdon

Lambourne Close

Bournmoor

Houghton-le-Spring

DH4 6HF

Tel: 0191 385 4291

Email: [bournmoor@durhamlearning.net](mailto:bournmoor@durhamlearning.net)

Web: [www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk](http://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk)

8<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We will be closing on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July for the summer holidays and this will end the most unusual and challenging academic year. Our school will close to all children including those of key workers, vulnerable pupils and year groups who were eligible to return in June. The Department for Education has said that schools should shut for the summer but want every pupil to return in September for the new academic year. They have released guidance to advise schools on how to do this and it may be helpful to look at it <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>. We will ensure that our school continues to be safe and is ready to re-open in September to meet the new guidance, with our continued focus on doing this safely.

When our school opened in June it was with some apprehension as we thought it might be too different for children to be able to learn and enjoy being in. Our concerns turned out to be unnecessary as every child who has attended school has been exceptional and a credit to their families. They have followed the guidance to the letter, encouraged and praised each other with regard to following the rules and brought such warmth and energy. We understand that for many parents and children, returning in September may seem daunting but we know that we can put the necessary safety measures in place and children can still enjoy school. However, we all need to work together to achieve this.

#### **Entering/leaving school:**

We will continue to welcome children through the side gate (one adult only) and ask parents to leave by walking up the ramp and out the top gate. That way parents don't pass each other, therefore keeping social distancing. To collect your child(ren) you will also enter through the side gate and leave via the top gate. Your support with this as parents remains vital. It may be difficult at first to accept as it isn't our usual routine, but no staff will be on the yard at the start or end of day to talk to. We need to get every child out safely and ensure parents stay apart. Also, for the first term at least we won't have before or after school clubs to ensure bubbles of children don't mix. Your patience with any necessary measures in place is greatly appreciated.

**Return to school date:**

Children will return to school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September when gates open at 8.50am. We will not gather on the yard as we normally do at the start of term, but children will go straight into their classes as they move to their next year group. The teachers look forward to welcoming them and settling them back to school. We would politely ask that all children return to school wearing uniform and only bring in essential items such as a named water bottle for water only (no juice), packed lunch (if your child brings one) and their PE kit. All stationary items will be provided. Also, to ensure the safety of children no snacks from home may be brought in.

**Reception and Nursery:**

As children in Reception and Nursery have been unable to come in for transition visits, we will be staggering their starts this year. Reception children will attend for mornings only for the first 2 weeks. We hope this will allow them to settle into their surroundings, building up to full time days by week 3. Their times will be 9.00-11.00 for week 1 and 9.00-12.15 on week 2, allowing the children to stay for lunch by the second week before being collected from the side gate by a parent/carer.

Our Nursery children will also have 2 weeks transition to allow them to get to know staff and settle in. All Nursery children are invited in for afternoon sessions for the first 2 weeks to get to know the staff in Early Years. Miss Pigg, Mrs Measor and Mrs Brown are really looking forward to welcoming their new starters. A separate letter has been sent to parents with more details.

**Goodbye to Year 6**

As this year draws to a close, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our lovely Year 6 class. They are a superb group of young people who are motivated, kind, resilient and wonderful individuals. I know that Mr Seaton and Mr Dent are particularly sorry not to have been able to spend all year with them. We wish them the very best for their future as they head to secondary school. I hope they keep in touch with us and let us know how they are getting on as they will be a huge miss in September when we return.

The support of everyone in our school community including staff, governors, parents and pupils has been heart-warming and I am sincerely grateful for all the hard work, positivity and ingenuity shown this year.

Yours sincerely,

*L A Snowdon*

Mrs Laura A Snowdon