

Bulphan Church of England Academy

Fen Lane, Bulphan, Essex. RM14 3RL

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26th February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have considered the Government guidelines throughout our school reopening planning process to ensure that our children can all return to school safely. I understand that some of you may have concerns around sending your child back to school but please rest assured that we will follow all of the guidelines set out by the Government. The safety of our pupils and staff is of paramount importance to us and we have planned for the reopening of our school with the well-being and safety of our children and staff at the forefront of our minds.

I ask you to carefully read and consider the following points which outline the school reopening plans. Much will be the same as the Autumn term, however, there are some **changes to drop off times** that need to be noted.

Will returning to school be compulsory?

- The government have outlined that school attendance will again be mandatory.
- Current Shielding advice for all adults and children will end on 31st March. This means, that pupils who have been on the shielded patient list can return to school after this date, as can those who have family members who are shielding.
- Some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional will need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school.
- Please advise the school office if your child is a shielded patient and we will advise on our remote learning offer – it can also be found on our website if you follow this link -

<https://www.bulphanprimary.thurrock.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Bulphan-Remote-Education-Information-for-parents.pdf>

Drop off and pick up times

We have continued with the staggered pick-up and drop off times as we did in the Autumn term. However, the drop off timings are slightly different to allow a 10-minute window for you to drop off your child, so that as per the Government guidance groups do not mix. Parents will be asked to **drop off their children at the main school gate** and a member of staff will direct them to their classroom.

***'God's word is a lamp to guide our feet and a light for our path'
Inspired by Psalm 119:105***

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It is very important that you stick to the time slots allocated per class to ensure the safety of our children, staff and parents. **If you have siblings in another class you can arrive at the earlier allotted time for both drop off and pick up.**

Please remember to observe social distancing of 2m when dropping off and collecting children at the school gates and to move away as soon as you have dropped of your child / children.

Please see new drop off timings below:

	Drop off timing	Pick up time
Upper School Year 4 / Year 5 / Year 6	8.30am – 8.40am	3.15pm – from main school gate
Middle School Year 2 / Year 3 / Year 4	8.45am – 8.55am	3.00pm – from main school gate
Lower School EYFS/Year 1	9.00am	3.10pm – from lower school garden gate

What should my child bring to school?

- We will limit resources that come in and out of the school building.
- Children should not bring in any items for ‘show and tell’.
- Children will be able to bring a lunchbox and water bottle.
- Children can bring in a book bag and reading record / book.
- Homework will be sent home weekly, this will be in homework books not via email.
- Children should wear full school uniform.
- To save unnecessary changing of clothes on PE days children are to wear their PE kit to school. PE days are the same as last term-

This needs to be our uniformed PE kit and not everyday sports clothes.

Lower School PE day - Thursday

Middle school PE day - Thursday

Upper School PE day - Tuesday

Keeping pupils and staff safe

- Children will be encouraged to maintain a safe distance as much as possible within their own bubbles but this will not be compulsory as per the Government guidelines.
- Staff, will continue to maintain social distancing where able to especially with parents and other members of school staff.

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- Classrooms will be set up with forward facing desks where possible and staff will avoid close face to face contact with children and minimise the time they spend within 1m of anyone. EYFS children will continue to access continuous provision and stringent cleaning will be in place.
- There will be regular cleaning of frequently used equipment and furniture.
- Windows and doors will be open to improve ventilation.
- Children, as per guidance, would not be expected to wear masks or other PPE.
- Staff may, as needed, wear PPE- e.g. when seeing children out at their door, on the gate, when administering medication or first aid, when checking pupils for signs of ill health.
- If any child or a member of staff shows symptoms of Covid-19 they will be sent home and self-isolation procedures would have to be followed by this individual.

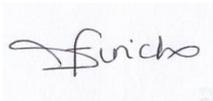
Will there be whole school events?

- As per the current guidelines' children will stay in their 'bubble' meaning that whole school events will not take place until guidelines change.
- This means there will not be any worships until further notice or any other whole school events. Instead children will take part in class-based worships within their bubble.

We return to school on **Monday 8th March**. The staff are all really looking forward to seeing all of the children back and supporting them in their return to school.

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours faithfully,



Miss. S Finch
Headteacher

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