

Bulphan Church of England Academy
Fen Lane, Bulphan, Essex. RM14 3RL

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Monday 19th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following further Government announcements regarding Step 4 of the road map we have reviewed the latest Department for Education and Local Authority guidance and are now able to provide you with an update and outline of what school will look like in September

The Government outlined a number of changes that will affect schools nationally as we head towards Step 4 of the road map. It is hugely positive news that we are moving into Step 4 and we are looking forward to operating school life without many of the stringent restrictions.

What is not changing in September?

- Anyone who has symptoms must isolate and take a PCR test.
- Individuals who return a positive LFT result will need to self-isolate immediately and order a confirmatory PCR test.
- Household contacts must still isolate with the individual who has tested positive.
- Self-isolate and household isolate remains as 10 days.

Staggered drop off and pick up times will no longer be in place

The main school gates will open at 8.30am, where you can choose to drop your child off and leave them under the supervision of staff on the playground or accompany your child.

The bell will ring at 8.50am and children will line up with their class teacher.

At the end of the school day the main school gate will open at 3pm, you can walk to your child's classroom exit point and wait outside, where class teachers will send children out to you.

Collection time for Lower School is 3.10pm
Collection time for Middle and Upper School is 3.15pm

If your child is late for school (if you arrive after 8.50am) you will be greeted at the main gate by a member of staff who will escort your child to their classroom.

The office will be open from 8.50am. Please only attend the office if you need to drop off or collect something, For all other enquiries, please phone or email. Phone lines are open from 8.30am.

Children will no longer be in class bubbles

It will no longer be necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). This means bubbles will not need to be used in schools from the autumn term.

***'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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Children will share the playground for break and lunchtime and be able to mix with other classes.

Children will no longer eat lunch in their classrooms and will instead, make use of the school dining hall. Whole school worships can begin again. We also hope to be able to attend church services.

After school clubs can resume

In September you will have the opportunity to apply for your child to attend an after-school club. More details will be shared when we return to school around what clubs will be available.

Face coverings for staff in communal areas will no longer be mandatory

Face coverings will be optional for our staff and parents when in communal areas.

From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.

Close contacts will now be asked to take a PCR test rather than isolate.

School Uniform

As we start a fresh, in a new academic year, please ensure that children are following the school uniform policy – paying particular attention to footwear and PE kits being in line with our school policy.

Children can come to school in their PE kits on their PE days. PE days are as follows:

Lower and Middle School = Tuesday

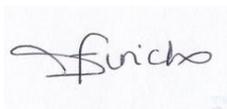
Upper School = Thursday

We will of course continue to monitor Government guidance throughout the summer holidays. If at any point any of these plans have to change we will contact you and keep you fully updated.

Thank you so much for your continued support and kindness during the most difficult of times over the past eighteen months - this has been so hugely appreciated!

I hope you and your child enjoy the final days of this academic year and we look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Yours faithfully,



Miss S Finch
Executive Headteacher

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