



Burnside Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs L Kelly

Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot believe that this is the last week of the school term and we have had the year that we have had. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in our school community, from the families who are back in school to the families still carrying out home learning. I strongly believe we have all worked together and tried to make the very best of the situation we have been in.

We have been working in school over the past few weeks on what school will look like in September and would like to reassure you that the safety of our school community is paramount in all decision making taking place.

I appreciate that this is a huge amount of information to take in. I kindly ask that you read it all carefully as this will help with the changes to school life in September for you and your child.

Reopening of school for all pupils in September 2020

The government has set out its intent and plan for all children to return to school full time from the start of September. It is based on a twin strategy of limiting contact between pupils and implementing hygiene measures.

In line with Government guidance we are now planning for **all pupils to return to school on Thursday 3rd September 2020**. Measures continue to remain in place in line with government and Together for Children guidance so school will still seem a little different.

Groupings

Children will be taught in full classes and during staggered break and lunchtime will also play alongside one other year group. This will allow us to minimise the number of pupils interacting as we return to full capacity. For the first two weeks the children will carry out some work linked to transition and will focus on the topic Happy Healthy Me. They will be asked to reflect on the events of the last six months and to focus on keeping our bodies and minds healthy in the future.

Hygiene

As well as our usual regular daily cleaning, there will be additional cleaning during the school day. We will be promoting good hygiene for staff and pupils, and there will be regular handwashing and hand sanitising during the day. The wearing of face masks will not be permitted by children or staff in school as set out in the government guidance. The only exception to this is when staff are administering first aid. With regard to face coverings the Government state: *'Public Health England does not (based on current evidence) recommend the use of face coverings in schools. This evidence will be kept under review. They are not required in schools as pupils and staff are mixing in consistent groups, and because misuse may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. There may also be negative effects on communication and thus education.'*

The start and end of the day

We are staggering the start and the end of the day to limit the number of people on the school site. We ask that drop off and collection time is limited to **one adult per family**. Entry and exit to school is via the **front gate only** to ensure there is a clear one way system in place around the school site. From Monday 7th September, with signed permission, pupils in Y5 and Y6 will be allowed to walk to and from school by themselves.

To minimise the number of adults on the school site at drop off and collection times school timings will be as follows:

Nursery	-	8.45am - 11.45am
Reception	-	9.00am - 3.15pm
Y1/Y2	-	8.45am - 3.00pm
Y3/Y4	-	9.00am - 3.15pm
Y5/Y6	-	8.45am - 3.00pm

All children will enter and exit through their classroom doors. No parent/carers will be permitted to enter the building.

Siblings can be dropped off and collected at the same time as each other.

A member of staff will be allocated to support and guide parents at drop of and collection times. We ask that children and parent/carers maintain social distance on arrival using the 2M markings.

New Nursery and Reception

New Nursery children will initially stay for 1.5 hours and new Reception children will stay until 11.45am so they can adjust to their new environment. When they are settled staff will inform you when they can stay for their full entitlement.

School day

In line with government guidance tables will be forward facing in Y1-Y6 allowing children to sit side by side and not face to face. Some resources will be restricted in EYFS.

Children must not bring anything to school other than a coat, bag, packed lunch bag and water bottle labelled with their name. Suncream will need to be applied before coming to school if this is needed. We will provide all equipment that the children need and this will stay in their class and not be shared with others. Each child will have a bag of regularly used resources which will be labelled with their name.

PE will take the form of the 'Golden Mile' in September therefore no PE kits will be needed in school. All children are going to participate in this to ensure they get their recommended amount of exercise every week.

School will continue to promote good hygiene and handwashing. Anti-bacterial stations are placed at key points in school and handwashing facilities are in every classroom.

We have staggered break and lunchtimes so that we can adhere to social distancing as much as possible. For the first half term a school lunch will take the form of a packed lunch which will contain hot food items daily. The price of a school meal will be £2.30 in September. Children will eat their lunch in the classroom and will go outside for breaks and planned activities to socialise with their friends. This will restrict movement around school and will limit your child coming into contact with children from other groups. This type of packed lunch and eating them in classrooms has worked well during our phased re-opening. There may be some restrictions on playtime equipment however handwashing will be a requirement when children re-enter school from break and lunchtime. Groupings for break and lunchtimes are as follows:

Nursery/Reception

Y1/Y2

Y3/Y4

Y5/Y6

These groups of children will have designated spaces where they can play outdoors together.

Children must wear school uniform from September which consists of the following:

NURSERY TO Y6	
Girls	Boys
Red sweatshirt with school badge if possible Red cardigan with school badge if possible	Red sweatshirt with school badge if possible
White polo shirt with school badge if possible	White polo shirt with school badge if possible
Grey skirt Grey pinafore Grey trousers – no leggings	Grey trousers
White or grey socks Grey tights	Grey socks
Red gingham dress optional in Summer term	
Black shoes No trainers	Black shoes No trainers
If children travel to school in alternative footwear e.g. wellies, they must change into their school shoes at the start of the day	

The children will need trainers to change into if they wish to play football during breaktimes and lunchtimes.

All items of uniform containing the school badge can be purchased online at www.totstoteams.com or you can collect an order form from the school office to order uniform via school. PE bags, book bags and coats containing the school badge are also available to buy via this website.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

There will be no breakfast or after school clubs in September 2020. Children from different groups should not be in contact with one another and this would be difficult to manage during these sessions. This will be reviewed regularly alongside government guidance.

Curriculum

Staff are already preparing a curriculum to fit the needs of the year groups they are going to be teaching ensuring that key objectives from the previous year group will be addressed and secured whilst also ensuring the children access the new curriculum for their year group. Reading will be a top priority throughout the school next academic year.

Suspected symptoms

In the event of a child developing suspected coronavirus symptoms whilst attending the setting, they should be collected as soon as possible and isolated at home in line with the NHS guidance. Whilst waiting for the child to be collected they will be isolated from others in an identified room with a first aid trained member of staff. A window will be opened for ventilation. The staff member during this time will wear suitable PPE. School will contact the health protection team who will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious. Based on the advice from the health protection team, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. This may effect a whole class.

Communication with the school office

Social distancing is also in place leading up to the main school entrance. We ask that any communication with school is made, if possible, in the first instance through telephone or email.

Travel to school

Where possible we ask that public transport is avoided when travelling to school to avoid possible risk.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you all back to school and hope that the information in this letter will put your minds at rest as to how school will work in September. I know some of you will be anxious, please be assured our aim is to make everyone as safe as possible and we have planned very carefully to minimise risks for a return to school.

I hope that you have felt supported by school during this difficult time and would like to wish you all a very peaceful and healthy holiday.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs L Kelly

Headteacher