



Burnside Academy

Brinkburn Crescent

Houghton-le-Spring

DH4 5HB

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Headteacher: Mrs L Kelly

3rd September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Building Update

I hope that you and your family are well and that you have had a lovely summer. We have spoken regularly with the Department for Education and our insurance company during the summer holidays and the decision has been made to place temporary buildings on the school field to accommodate the whole school whilst the necessary work is carried out to fix the building. This will take place in September and October and we have been reassured that this temporary school will be fully operational on November 1st 2021.

Organisation

We are looking forward to welcoming our children back to school on Tuesday 7th September where they will get a coach to their allocated school for this half term:

Nursery and Reception	-	Plains Farm Academy
Year 1 Year 2 and Year 5	-	Plains Farm Academy
Year 3/4	-	New Peshaw Academy
Year 6	-	Farrington Academy

Nursery will attend for 3 full days from Wednesday to Friday to ensure they receive their entitlement of 15 hours.

Coach Times

Year Group	Bus leaving Burnside Academy	Bus arriving back at Burnside Academy
Nursery	8.45am	3.15pm
Reception	8.45am	3.15pm
Year 1	8.45am	3.15pm
Year 2	8.45am	3.15pm
Year 3/4	8.50am	3.25pm
Year 5	8.45am	3.15pm
Year 6	9.00am	3.30pm

Please drop your child off at the front gate where your child's class teacher will meet them every morning and collect them from the same designated space. Please arrive at your child's designated time to ensure minimum congestion at the school gates.

Medication

If your child requires medication please hand it to a member of staff on Tuesday 7th September at the front gates leading into school. We will need you to complete the necessary paperwork allowing us to administer this at their new school site.

Learning

We will be focusing on your child's emotional well-being and our initial focus will be to ensure that they are happy, settled and confident in their new setting. We realise that some children will be feeling very anxious about the new term and

their class whilst others will just skip through the doors. We will be ready for them all! We have well-being activities planned for the first few days and the children will continue to be able to enjoy a full and balanced curriculum, which will be tailored to meet their needs.

Uniform and Equipment

As before the summer holidays, school uniform must be worn. Please can your child also bring a fresh water bottle daily. A bag can be brought to school but please limit items to what is essentially needed. Stationery will be provided by the school so please do not bring pencil cases. PE kits will continue to be worn on your child's dedicated PE day. PE days will be communicated by your child's class teacher.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory and all children must attend school.

Safety

All of the schools in the Trust have updated their Risk Assessment to reflect current DfE and Local Authority guidance for the Autumn term. To help prevent and reduce the spread of COVID 19 the school will be continuing the use of social distancing measures on the school site and we also invite parents to continue to wear a face covering. To keep everyone safe we have the following measures in place at each school in our Trust:

- Ventilation in all areas of the school building
- Staff testing
- Vaccinated staff members
- Increased cleaning regime
- Regular washing of hands/use of sanitiser
- Staggered starts/end of the day

COVID- 19 Symptoms and Procedures

If anyone in school shows symptoms of COVID-19 they must not come into school. If they do they will be sent home and advised to follow current government guidance which states that they must self-isolate and should arrange to have a PCR test. The NHS are now responsible for undertaking the Test and Trace process and identifying close contacts. Staff members/pupils identified as close contacts will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test. We have a Covid Outbreak Management Plan which will be followed if there is an outbreak in school.

I will continue to update you regularly next half term regarding the works being carried out at Burnside Academy.

If you need to contact school please email burnside.academy@inspiremultiacademytrust.co.uk or call **07522793344** to speak to Miss Huntley who will pass your information on to the necessary member of staff.

I hope that you all enjoy the remainder of your summer holidays and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 7th September.

Mrs Kelly
Headteacher