

Dear Parents and Carers,

We look forward to seeing all pupils on the 8th March after what is hopefully, the last period of national lockdown. As set out by the Prime Minister and the Department for Education (DfE), attendance from the 8th March is compulsory. Although this is fantastic news I am fully aware that there may be some parents/carers and children who will be nervous about returning. Please feel free to speak to your child's teacher, our Inclusion Manager, Mrs Pilfold or myself if you do have concerns.

It is essential that we continue to minimise contact across the school site and maintain social distancing wherever possible. Minimising contacts and mixing between people reduces transmission of COVID-19. This is important in all contexts and we must do everything possible to minimise contacts and mixing while delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. This can be achieved through keeping groups separate (in 'bubbles') and through maintaining distance between individuals as advised by the Department for Education (DfE).

Rapid testing remains an important part of the government's plan to suppress the virus, in education and childcare settings and across society and is something the staff will continue to take part in. This sort of testing means that people who have COVID 19 but do not have any symptoms, who might otherwise continue to attend educational settings, can be identified and self-isolate.

We continue to follow DfE and PHE guidance to reduce the risk of transmission and have systems in place to continually assess the risk and implement measures to mitigate risk, including ventilating occupied spaces, enhanced cleaning and minimising contact and mixing. We ask all parents/carers, pupils and staff to continue to do everything they can to adhere to these measures, because it is vital that they are implemented well and consistently.

The BBC Asian Network has created some information on COVID-19 vaccine scams which may be of interest to some parents/carers and made it available on social media. The information has been made available on social media and includes videos in [Urdu](#), [Sylheti](#), [Punjabi](#), [Tamil](#) and [Gujarati](#) for Twitter, [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). You can also find these on the [BBC news website](#).

Your children have been amazing during this current period of lockdown and we are all impressed with the commitment they have shown to complete the work that has been set and for attending the live sessions offered. During the first week, the children will be re-introduced to the expectations of school life and in particular the rules around COVID safe behaviour.

Arrival and Pick Up

Arrival and pick up times will continue to be staggered until the DfE advises us that the Bubble System can be disbanded. This system has worked well with very few positive cases and no examples of cross-bubble infection. As before, the altered timetable ensures your child is still receiving the same amount of teaching hours as pre-COVID 19 as the lunch

break has been reduced and we are still exceeding the designated teaching hours prescribed by the DfE.

You must stick to the allotted times to limit the number of people moving along the two narrow paths on the school site and congregating on the playgrounds. Children should be brought in by **one adult** per family to reduce the number of people moving along the path and every adult, unless you are exempt, must be wearing a face mask before entering through the gates on both Hill View and School Approach. It is also important, for your safety and that of others in our community, that you keep your distance from other adults whilst moving along the footpaths and when you wait in the playground. Please be particularly aware of 'pinch points' such as the entrance to the 100 square playground.

If you have children in multiple year groups, you can arrive at your eldest child's time if you feel you are able to wait safely and at a distance from other parents/carers until your younger child's start time. Please be aware that children will not be able to enter the school building earlier than their allotted time, as this would involve a member of staff on each door taking them away from the classroom. Alternatively, you can arrive with all your children at the youngest child's time.

	EY Bubble	Y1/2 Bubble	Y3/4 Bubble	Y5/6 Bubble
Classes	Lime and Apple	Bay, Myrtle and Willow	Cherry, Sycamore and Poplar	Oak, Acacia and Maple
Arrival	9:10	9:00	8:50	8:40
Departure	2:50	2:50	3:00	3:10
Location of drop off and pick up	Front of Lime and Apple Classrooms	Main Y1/2 Door, 100 square playground	Poplar and Sycamore - Nursery playground Cherry - Door by Acacia	Acacia - Door near Acacia Oak and Maple - Y5/6 Door

Wrap Around Care - Breakfast and After-School Club

From the 8th March, we can resume before and after-school club for all pupils, where this provision is necessary to support parents to work, attend education or access medical care. Vulnerable children can attend these settings regardless of circumstance. Please contact Cat Osborn, Nursery Manager, if you require wrap-around care. Contact details: 01732 780431 / steps@bgpschool.kent.sch.uk

Routines and Behaviour Expectations

- Children will be required to wear school uniform, black school shoes and should be smartly presented at all times. I am aware that some children may have outgrown their school shoes. If this is the case then trainers are permissible until replacement shoes can be

sought. If you need to make use of the onsite, second-hand uniform shop, please let the office know.

- **Please ensure equipment and clothing is labelled** and encourage your child to keep their items with them or in their lockers at all times, book bags are now allowable. Children in Oak and Maple will be asked to keep their belongings on the back of their chair as the coat pegs are too close to each other. Children should bring a jumper and a coat as most windows in the classrooms will be open for ventilation.
- Equipment - it is important that each child has their own designated equipment. To support this please send your child in with the following items: 30cm ruler, small pack of coloured pencils, scissors, eraser, sharpener and glue stick. Years 3-6 will also need a small dictionary, pen (if they have a pen licence) and a half circle protractor. Children should also bring in a water bottle, although the ones with the mist spray option are not allowed.
- Some Year 6 children, who have brought in signed permission that they can walk home on their own, may have a mobile phone in school. This should be handed to the class teacher on entry to the classroom in the morning. Once all phones have been collected they will be stored in the office. **Phones are not allowed to be stored anywhere else.**
- Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered and shortened to allow for all the 'bubbles to access outdoor space; children will remain with those in their 'bubble' during playtimes (am and pm) and lunch times.
- To be able to provide a hot lunch to all those who have a school dinner a different system will be in place:
 - EY - will have a hot meal delivered to Forest Room (a classroom next to Lime and Apple)
 - Y1/2 and Y3/4 - will eat in the hall, two separate sittings.
 - Y5/6 - will collect their lunch from the hall and eat in their own classrooms.
- All children will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently during the school day; hand sanitisers will be available when washing facilities are not easily accessed.
- Staff all have access to anti-bacterial spray and regularly used surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day.
- There will be no paper based homework set although this may change later in the year.
- Verbal feedback throughout the lesson will replace most hand-written marking to reduce contact with the children's books. Verbal feedback often has far greater impact, providing the child with immediate support, guidance or praise, rather than waiting to see their book the next day.
- Children that consistently and deliberately break the social distancing rules will need to be collected and can only return if it is safe to do so.
- If your child develops symptoms you should inform the school as soon as is possible; or if at school, the child will be sent home.

Please avoid approaching the office or members of staff at the beginning or end of the day as they need to focus on the children that are coming into school. If it is an urgent message please keep to a social distance otherwise send an email via the school.office@bgpschool.kent.sch

Parent Consultations

As before, parent consultations will take place remotely over the period of a few weeks. You will be sent a time and date, which you must confirm is convenient for you by emailing the school office. There were a number of parents who did not 'arrive' for their consultation last time so please ensure a reminder is in your diary. Consultations will be either a phone call or a Zoom meeting.

Thank you for all the supportive messages throughout this period. I very much look forward to seeing you all on the 8th March.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Sandberg

Headteacher, Borough Green Primary

This plan and information is subject to change at short notice and is under constant review.

* Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms include one or more of the following:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

More detail is available online: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

The individual should be tested for COVID-19; this can be arranged online: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/>

What to do following a positive test

If the individual tests negative they can return to school. However, in the event of positive test result, they must self-isolate at home for ten days starting the day after the symptoms started and follow the guidance available online:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The individual will receive a request by text, email or phone to log into the NHS Test and Trace service website and provide information about recent close contacts. Other individuals may also need to self-isolate for 10 days; in most cases this will include the rest of their bubble, however, Public Health England will support the school to identify those close contacts who will need to be advised to self-isolate and any further testing required.