

Blowers Green Primary School

Blowers Green Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8UZ

Headteacher: Mrs S Sehmbi



Our ref: SS/jss

13th July 2020

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Returning to School in September 2020

I am pleased to inform you that we are now in a position to share with you the arrangements for your child/children's return to school in September 2020. We are really looking forward to welcoming them back!

Pastoral care and support

Our children's health and wellbeing is of the utmost importance to us- we know that if children do not feel safe, secure and happy, they will not learn. We also appreciate that for some children, there has been a six month break from school and the thought of returning to school will be very daunting.

With this in mind, we will be following an alternative curriculum for the first few days. During this time, the children will have the opportunity to share their lockdown experience, talk about any worries or concerns they may have and spend quality time with their friends and teachers.

We will also use this opportunity to re- establish school routines and talk about the new way of working.

Department for Education (DfE) - guidance

- The DfE guidance states that attendance is statutory- therefore all children in Years 1-6 will be welcomed back on Wednesday 2nd September 2020. Please note, a separate communication will be shared with Nursery and Reception pupils regarding their return.
- By keeping pupils in small consistent groups, the likelihood of spreading the infection is greatly reduced. Children will return to their own classes. The class 'bubble' will remain together throughout the school day. There will be no large group activities, such as assemblies.
- Staff and children will wash their hands regularly throughout the day with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, particularly after coming into school, after sneezing and coughing, before and after handling or eating food and after going to the toilet. Children and staff will use hand sanitiser/wash their hands frequently. The sanitiser gel in school will be 70% alcohol (this is compliant with government guidance noting it should be a minimum of 60%). Children should **NOT** bring their own sanitiser to school.
- The DfE guidance states that uniform should be reinstated and so all children should return in full uniform. Items are available from the school office until the end of term and from Tuesday 1st September 2020.



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Start of school day

- The school will operate a one way system. Staff will be on hand to provide guidance with this.
- To ease congestion, the school will implement a 'staggered' start to the day, whilst ensuring that family groups can arrive together. You will be given a start time and we ask that you adhere to this. Only ONE parent should be on site.
- Pupils in Years 2-6 are asked to come into school on their own.
- Masks must not be brought into school.

During the school day:

- All children will be provided with the necessary equipment. Please do not send in stationary/pencil cases. They will need a small PE bag, lunchbox, and a school book bag. No other bags or equipment is permitted.
- Classrooms and equipment will be thoroughly cleaned throughout the day. Equipment that cannot be cleaned will be 'quarantined' in line with guidelines.
- A member of the school's cleaning team will be on site throughout the day to support with this

Breaks and Lunchtimes

- Break times and lunchtimes will be staggered.
- Toilet breaks will be staggered.
- Please send your child with at least one water bottle (preferably 2)

Lunch/ Snacks:

- The school will continue to offer mid-morning toast to the children (10p per day). A number of our staff have completed the 'food hygiene' training.
- The school kitchen will reopen. Grab bags will be provided for the first few weeks and hot lunches will be gradually introduced.
- If your child is entitled to Universal Free School (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2), or a Free School Meal, this will be available as usual.

End of school day

- The school will operate a staggered end to the day. You will be given a time to collect your child/ren and we ask that you adhere to this. This will help ease any congestion.
- Only ONE parent should be on the school site.



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Learning Lounge and after school clubs

- Learning Lounge will reopen. Staff will be ready to receive the children from 7.45am. Please use the normal entrance.
- The school will not be able to offer after school clubs for a least the first half of the autumn term. This will be reviewed on a regular basis in line with government guidelines.

Communication

- Please ring the school if you wish to speak to your child's class teacher.
- During these unprecedented times, parents will not be allowed to enter the school building, without prior arrangement.

If your child presents with symptoms:

- If your child presents with symptoms you will be contacted immediately. Children will wait in a designated area in isolation, until they can be collected. You and the rest of your family must then self-isolate for the next 14 days before returning to school.
- If any member of the household presents with symptoms, your child must NOT come to school and needs to self-isolate for 14 days at home. School needs to be notified on the first day of self-isolation.
- If a child or member of staff tests positive for Covid-19, school will follow guidelines from the government around closure of a group/year group or school according to contact that the child or member of staff has had with others.

Parents/ Carers- we need your help

- We ask that you do not congregate around the school site. Arrive and leave promptly.
- PLEASE take care with the busy road. Ensure your child arrives at the school gate safely and then hand them over to the member of staff on duty.

Please trust us!

Please be reassured that we will continue to follow all government advice and guidance and do all we can to keep our precious children safe. If you have any queries, concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office – remember, there is no such thing as a silly question!

Yours sincerely

S Sehmbi

Headteacher



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