



Headteacher

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Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of our Year 6 children

Returning to school in June

Many thanks for completing the Year 6 survey and indicating to us whether you would like to send your child back to school. For those of you who are undecided, we hope that the details in this letter will help you make your mind up one way or the other. Please be assured that it is your choice whether you send your child to school. If you are not ready yet then that is okay. If you are not ready before the summer holidays then that is also fine. We are aware that this letter is not only very long but also not very personal at this stage. Please bear with it and read to the end perhaps more than once. There is also a list of FAQs accompanying this letter which repeats some of the key information. We have risk assessed our intended provision and the school site in line with government and local authority guidance, and it is only with your help that we can implement our plan to keep your children as safe as possible.

Return to School

School for Year 6 will begin on **Tuesday 2nd June**. When the children return they will be in groups of no more than 15 pupils, and will remain in the same group throughout each day of the week. One teacher and one Learning Support Assistant (or in the case of job shares two Learning Support Assistants) will be allocated to each group. These adults will be the only adults your child has contact with in school on a day to day basis.

Each group will have a staggered start and end to the school day. Breakfast club and after school club are not running at this time. The reason for this is that government guidelines stipulate that they cannot safely do so unless they contain children from the same teaching group. As we are sure you can appreciate, this is not logistically possible!

As we are effectively creating four teaching groups (or 'bubbles') for Year 6, it will mean that some children are with their Year 6 teacher and some are not. The Department for Education guidelines specify that children should not be in school on a rota basis, and that adults should be consistent in each group. With that in mind, we have asked Mr Pearne and Miss Warner, both of whom have experience of teaching Year 6, to temporarily join the Year 6 teaching team to each lead a group / bubble.

When allocating the children into groups, we have tried to consider their friendship groups in their existing classes, as well as the individual needs of the children. Once the groups are established we will not be able to change them. The Year 6 teachers are close to finalising the groups based on the latest responses to the survey. We will inform you of your child's group (and therefore teacher and timings) on Friday 29th May, following the anticipated government announcement on Thursday 28th May.

Drop off and Pick up

When you drop your child off to school, we ask that you do not come onto the school site but that you say goodbye to them at the allocated gate. Please may we ask that you stick as rigidly as possible to the times allocated to avoid contact with other groups. We also ask that parents do not stand in groups and chat at drop off, as we will need you to vacate the space outside school and be ready for the next group. Similarly, at pick up, please collect your child and disperse as quickly as you can to avoid a clash with another group. This is not only to safeguard yourself and your

family but also our staff, all of whom are entitled to be protected so that they in turn can protect their own families when they return home at the end of each day.

Government advice has been to walk to school if possible and to avoid the use of public transport. We would rather that children did not bring bikes and scooters onto the school site at this time. If your child usually walks alone, and brings a mobile phone to school, they will be asked to hand these in to their class teachers at the beginning of the day. These will be stored safely and returned to the children at the end of the day.

The group drop off and pick up times and locations are as follows:

	Mr Evans	Miss Mistry	Miss Warner	Mr Pearne
Drop off and pick up location	Small gate on Brighton Road	Small gate on Brighton Road	Main school gate	Main school gate
Drop off time	8.45am	9.05am	8.55am	9.15am
Pick up time	3.00pm	3.15pm	3.05pm	3.25pm
Thursday pick up time	12.20pm	12.30pm	12.40pm	12.50pm
PE Days	Monday and Wednesday	Tuesday and Thursday	Wednesday and Friday	Tuesday and Thursday

You will notice that pick up time on a Thursday is earlier. The children will eat lunch at school and be picked up from school after that. There are two reasons for this: one is for cleaning purposes and one is so that the teaching staff can have their statutory planning time (PPA) which they are entitled to and will need in order to plan for the effective education of your children each week. Restricting each group to two members of staff means that those staff have minimal chances for a break during the school day, and that they take on multiple roles (e.g. teacher, lunchtime supervisor, cleaner) during the day. Miss Warner and Mr Pearne also have the pastoral responsibility for their own classes to manage.

Equipment

Each child will have their own tray of equipment with the intention that the children will not need to share equipment. Any school equipment, such as paint brushes or white boards, will be cleaned before use and then allocated to a child for the duration of their time at school.

Each bubble has their own allocated toilets. Children will go to the toilet one at a time. Taps and door handles will be cleaned at lunchtime with the entire toilet facility being deep cleaned every evening. In between, children are encouraged to wash their hands thoroughly and to use the hand sanitiser stations that will be in place around the school.

Lunches

Your child can have school dinners or packed lunches. We have planned with the answers from your survey in mind. School dinners will be a choice of sandwich fillings and some additional items such as fruit and biscuits. Even though Thursday is a half-day for the children we would like them to remain in school until their allotted pick up time.

Uniform

When the children return after half term they will be wearing school uniform. This can be summer or winter uniform, whatever you have available. Current advice is that uniform is washed each evening. On the days which the children have a PE lesson, we ask that they come to school in their PE kits and wear them for the entire day. PE days can be found in the table above.

Social distancing

The advice from the Department for Education recognises that social distancing is a challenge with primary age children. In the classroom each child has their own desk which are spaced apart, and we either clean school equipment before use or encourage children to use their own. With that in mind please can you send your child in to school with their own reading book from home, and their own pencil case.

Children are asked to maintain good hand washing routines, and all lining-up is carried out with appropriate social distancing in mind. There will be a one-way system around certain parts of the school to ensure that, wherever possible, the key worker children in school do not mix with the Year 6 children during the day, and that the Year 6 children do not mix with other Year 6 bubbles.

Playtime and lunchtime 'zones' will be allocated to each bubble. The only exception to this is assembly where we may have two or three groups together in the hall or on the field. During these times, children will remain 2 metres apart. Our implementation of social distancing has to of course take into account the space and staff that we have available to ensure that children are as safe as we can make them. We will teach the children the new routines and expect them to follow them. If they forget, we will help them. If they do not understand we will teach them. We will not be punitive with those who struggle, but we will ensure that the children follow the guidance to the best of each of their individual abilities. We will rigorously remind them why these protective measures are in place. They are children and we want to keep them safe and well, whilst welcoming them back into the nurturing environment of their primary school. We want them to enjoy their last half term at BJS!

PPE

Staff at school will not be wearing any PPE in line with government and Public Health England advice. The only exception to this is during the administration of first aid.

Those children not returning to school

We realise that there are some children in Year 6 who, for varying reasons, will not be returning to school. The Year 6 VLE pages will no longer be updated but we will email appropriate work throughout the course of the week. However, there will not be the same quantity as is currently supplied.

Having read all of the above, please consider your position carefully. If you have changed your mind since completing the survey that is of course fine but please do let us know. If you were undecided, please make your decision and let us know. Some of you may have further questions. Attached is a series of FAQs which we hope will answer any queries. You are of course welcome to get in touch via email should you wish to do so.

Enjoy your half term break. We cannot wait to see your wonderful children in June.

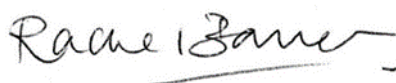
Take care and keep safe,

Richard Catchpole

and Rachel Barker



(Headteacher)



(Deputy Headteacher)