



Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you are keeping well in this difficult time and managing to keep updated with all the changes from the Government. I am writing to you with an update from school and to give details of our current offer for schooling. The offer is reviewed each week by the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body at Britannia as the guidance changes.

As has been the case throughout the emergency, all schools are encouraged to admit vulnerable pupils and those children of key workers as long as their risk assessments suggest it is safe to do so. In addition to this, the government guidance states that children from Early Years, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 can now be welcomed back and Lancashire Authority has now said that that they can be admitted. However, it is also recognised that each school context differs and that the decision to welcome back more pupils to Lancashire's schools lies with head teachers, in consultation with the board of governors, taking into account a school's individual circumstances with safety in mind.

As Headteacher, I still want nothing more than to be able to welcome children back to school but with the best intentions of managing safety, wellbeing and academic achievement the reality of what the school faces brings barriers which prevent us being able to deliver everything the Government would like us to and everything we would like to do. Although this guidance has been released our school issues below remain the same from our previous correspondence on the 20th May 2020.

- Our key worker numbers remain high across the school and we now have waiting lists for some bubbles in school.
- A number of staff are classed as vulnerable and we are working with reduced staffing levels.
- The physical limitations of the school building means that we can only accommodate between 6 - 13 children in each different room.

Our key worker bubbles are now full and over the past week we have contacted families in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to ask parents if they were interested in their child/children returning to school in some form over the next few weeks. We have now collated this information (which is now set - there will be no way that we can accommodate people now changing their minds) and we have looked at ways in which we may be able to welcome some more children whose families have indicated they wish for their child to return back from the 29th June. The Governing Body have made the decision after reviewing the numbers to welcome Year 6 back in addition to the key worker bubbles from next week every Tuesday and Wednesday (starting 30th June) for the next three weeks. This will enable the children to have some time with their peers and teachers and to complete some transition work in preparation for High School. The new Year 6 bubble will be based in the school hall with separate toilets and will be led by Miss Connolly.



Head teacher: Mrs Natalie Longstaff
Britannia Primary School, Rochdale Road, Britannia, Bacup, Lancashire OL13 9TS
Tel: 01706 874447 Email: bursar@britannia.sch.uk Web: www.BritanniaPrimary.co.uk



Each bubble will not mix with any other social bubble in school. They will start and finish school at different times, they will have different lunchtime and playtime designated areas but the majority of time they will spend in their own classrooms. This will include eating their lunch within the classrooms. We will minimise contact in the communal areas as much as possible. When in the classroom, children will sit at individual tables spread out around the room at least 2 metres apart with access to their own personal tray of equipment and resources for the school day. We must be very clear with parents that social distancing within each class social bubble will not always be able to be maintained as the government recognised in their guidance and that this will be very challenging for schools. We will be robustly encouraging social distancing, however, even the oldest child in our school is still very young in real terms. Please be under no illusion that social distancing in all schools, including ours, will be practically impossible to achieve.

Group	Keyworker group 1	Keyworker group 2	Keyworker group 3	Keyworker group 4	Keyworker group 5	Keyworker group 6	New Year 6 Bubble
Teacher	Mrs Nuttall Mrs Bromley	Miss Birch Miss Long	Mrs Taylor Miss Halstead	Miss Rothwell Miss Moores	Miss Holmes Mrs Broadbelt	Mr Toddington Miss Caulcutt	Miss Connolly
Classroom	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5	Year 6	Hall
Start time	8.50am	9am	8.40am	8.30am	8.35am	9.10am	9.20am
Collection time	2.45pm	2.55pm	3.05pm	3.15pm	3.20pm	3.25pm	2.30pm

It is essential to ensure that you arrive on time and at the correct time for drop off and pick up to keep bubbles as separate as possible. We have staggered these times to ensure groups are not congregating at the school gates. Pupils and parents will wait 2 metres apart on the marked school drive until their start time. A member of staff will then open the school gates and let pupils only onto the school yard. We ask that parents do not gather to talk and make the drop off and collection of their children as swift as possible to ensure everyone's safety. We ask that only one parent brings their child to school and where possible this is through walking. If you have more than one child and they are both scheduled to be in school, you must bring them at the later time. The staggered start times are displayed above.

Provision for Education

At this point, our priority is to allow children to resume schooling safely. Staff will use their best endeavours to ensure that children are educated at a level appropriate to their needs. There will be a focus on wellbeing and talking to the children about their thoughts and feelings during this difficult time. We will also work on key skills for the year group and try to prepare the children for their future educational journey at Britannia.

Extended School Provision

At present, we remain unable to re-open our breakfast club and after school clubs as children would be mixing bubbles and we are doing this for the safety of all our children, families and staff.

Uniform

Due to the prolonged absence from school, the children will have grown in many ways therefore for parental ease the children may come to school in their own clothes. The children do not need to wear uniform but can do if they wish and Year 6 may choose to wear their leavers hoodies. However, we are requesting that as per the DFE guidance that children come to school in freshly washed clean clothes each day. Please ensure that your child **wears sensible footwear** and



appropriate clothing for the weather as we all know what Britannia weather is like! Wherever possible sun cream should be applied prior to coming to school if necessary. The staff will not be permitted to apply sun cream.

Infection Control

A range of infection control measures throughout the day will be implemented. These will include enhanced handwashing, cleaning routines, good respiratory hygiene, minimising contact between social bubbles, class room layout, emptying bins and well ventilated classrooms. PPE will be used for changing children, dealing with bodily fluids, first aid and if a child displays symptoms of coronavirus they will be looked after by staff wearing PPE. Before your child returns to school, it is essential for you to prepare them by having discussions with them around social distancing, good personal hygiene and hand-washing. The government have produced this document with supports this:

<https://e-bug.eu/>

Food and Drink

In order to minimise the risk further, the kitchen will be regarded as its own 'bubble'. Lunches will be prepared and collected from the kitchen by SLT and taken to the appropriate 'bubble', ensuring social distancing measures are applied throughout. The children will order their meal in school in their bubble or they may choose to bring in a packed lunch. Lunches will be eaten in the classroom and children will remain in the classrooms but given a break outside shortly afterwards. All children entitled to have a free school meal will be given a meal on the days that they are in school. Vouchers will be provided for the Free School Meal children who are not in school. All children must bring their own water bottle to school each day as the water fountains will not be in use. These must be cleaned every day at home prior to the next day.

Resources

All resources will be provided in school and it is advised that where possible children do not bring in large bags. All pupils will be provided with their own stationary pack which will remain in school each day. Children will have access to reading books which can come home but will be isolated for one week when they are returned to school to minimise infection. Further reading materials can be found on the Oxford Owls site, details of which are on the school webpage.

Illness

As you will be aware the guidance from the NHS states that should your child show any symptom of COVID-19 such as a high temperature, a continuous cough or the loss of taste or smell, they should not attend school and isolate immediately. When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students who are attending an educational or childcare **setting will have access to a test** if they display symptoms of coronavirus and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self- isolation. This is a measure that is in place to protect all of our school community.

What to do if COVID is confirmed in school?

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The



other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

Remote Learning for Children not in school.

If your child does not have an allocated place in school, the school will continue to provide online learning in the same format on the school webpage. This will include English, Maths and Curriculum learning. However, due to the demands placed on additional staff in school, they will be unable to provide feedback and answer questions via email. Therefore, we have created new points of contact for each Year group and the email details can be found below.

Reception and Year 1 queries and completed work must be sent to katie.isherwood@britannia.lancs.sch.uk

Year 2, 3 and 4 queries and completed work must be sent to l.foulds@britannia.lancs.sch.uk

Year 5H, 5B and 6 queries and completed work must be sent to s.connolly@britannia.lancs.sch.uk

Any queries for the children in school or that cannot be answered by the above staff should be sent to either bursar@britannia.lancs.sch.uk, head@britannia.lancs.sch.uk or deputy@britannia.lancs.sch.uk.

Next Year

Over the past week, I have started to receive questions about September and the plans for the new academic year. At present, we are awaiting government guidance on this and once we have received this we will endeavour to inform you of the plans as soon as possible. I would ask you to please be patient as we are responding to frequent changes in guidance as soon as we possibly can.

A Final Note

I would like to thank you as the school community for your continued support with difficult decisions and kind words over the lockdown period. This week, Miss Connolly has shared with me some of your learning from the lockdown period and I am truly amazed and proud of the learning the Britannia Community has continued to complete in this difficult time. I can see that through the difficult times, there has also been laughter and great fun and that lots of special memories have been created in family units which I hope that you will treasure forever. I know I am looking forward to seeing all you have achieved on display in school. All of our families have shown true community spirit and for that I am truly grateful to you all. I am also looking forward to the day when our community can all be back together again safely and hope that this will be very soon.

Thank you all in advance for your co-operation and I wish you all health and happiness. Please look after one another and stay safe.

Mrs Longstaff

