



BEANFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Information for parents on the reopening of Beanfield Primary School for the Spring Term

There has been considerable national debate on the reopening of primary schools for the start of the Spring Term. Under current legislation and government guidance we are required to reopen fully during the week commencing 4th January

Our school has revised its health and safety risk assessment in the light of the most recent guidance now we have moved into Tier 4. However, a number of trade unions representing school staff are recommending to their members that they do not attend school due to safety concerns. Unions have further advised that their members should only support remote education or face to face support of vulnerable and key worker children who attend schools.

As a result, we have sought to establish the impact staff availability will have on our ability to deliver education in school. I am writing to confirm the following arrangements from January 5th 2021.

School will re-open for all year groups **except for Year 1**. School will be open for Key Worker and Vulnerable children in Year 1 and those children should arrive at school at their normal start time. Please ensure you have let the school know you intend your Year 1 child to attend school by booking a space using the Key Worker Attendance tab on your WisePay dashboard. If you have booked a space in our Extended Provision which you no longer need please email our admin team on the address above.

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
 - adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
 - those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
 - those living in temporary accommodation
 - those who are young carers
 - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
 - care leavers

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- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health

Guidance as to whether you qualify as a Key/Critical Worker can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Remote Learning

In the event that your child has to isolate whilst awaiting a Covid test result, remote learning is available on the school's website in the following location:

Parent Info → Home Learning → Phase 1 Home Learning → Select your child's year group.

This is a generic set of activities designed to keep your child's learning ticking over for the day or two whilst they await a test result.

In the event that your child has to isolate for a longer period of time i.e. if they have come into contact with someone who has tested positive and have to isolate at home for ten days, remote learning is available on the school's website in the following location:

Parent Info → Home Learning → Phase 2 Home Learning → Select your child's year group.

This learning will closely mirror the learning taking place in school and will enable your child to keep up to date with the curriculum whilst they are isolating.

In the event that your child's class/year group bubble is closed or there is a full school closure, remote learning is available on the school's website in the following location:

Parent Info → Home Learning → Phase 3 Home Learning → Select your child's year group.

This learning will replicate the curriculum that should be taught in the classroom to ensure your child is covering their year group objectives and that they are gaining a broad and balanced education.

Where parents have indicated they would like remote learning provided in paper form, this will be posted to you as a paper pack that mirrors the online package. All children will be provided with a remote learning exercise book to complete all their learning at home.

Please note we will only be providing remote learning for children that are absent for school for a Covid related reason.

The measures that we have put in place since September 2020 have been effective in managing Covid-19 cases so far. Our staff have worked relentlessly to make school as safe as possible. The support of parents has also been crucial as you have worked closely with us to reduce the spread of the virus and ensure children are able to continue with their education.

To support us with keeping our school as safe as possible we ask that you are vigilant in not sending your child to school if they show even the faintest sign of illness. We know that children who become infected often show no symptoms at all or complain of a headache or tummy ache. If your child complains of feeling unwell please do not send them to school. Please note that if we feel any child is unwell on arrival to school we will be immediately calling you to collect them.

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A polite reminder to all parents that to lessen the amount of people gathering outside the school gates during the drop off window, we are going to open the pedestrian gate to allow Key Stage 2 children to come onto the school site rather than lining up on the pavement outside the school. Children will walk round and will instead line up on the Key Stage 2 playground supervised by staff. The start times will remain as they are – Years 3 and 4 at 8.40am and Years 5 and 6 at 8.50am.

In addition, may we please remind you of the following guidelines when entering our school site:

- Ensure you and your children maintain 2 metre social distance from other families or members of school staff on the school site.
- You will not be able to have conversations with your child's class teacher at the end of the school day and that any questions or queries should be emailed into the school for the attention of your child's teacher.
- Wherever possible limit the number of adults accompanying children onto the school site to one adult per family.
- Please wear a face covering on the school site.

These arrangements will remain under constant review and I will write to you again as and when there are changes. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we try to navigate our way through this extremely challenging situation for our school and the community we serve.

Thank you for your support in these difficult and unprecedented times.

Samantha Eathorne
Principal