



Great Bardfield Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Alison Kerrell

Monday 6th July 2020

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all safe and keeping well in the difficult circumstances that we continue to find ourselves in. It has been over one hundred days since lockdown began and I am hopeful that we are beginning to make a return to a more normal routine. It has been a very challenging time; I want to thank you sincerely for all of your hard work and resilience with managing your child's Home Learning and for the many kind messages of support that we have received over the last few months.

You will have heard, in last week's news, that the Government has decided that all children in England should return to school from the beginning of the autumn term. I am working hard on putting plans in place, using DFE guidance, to do this safely for everyone. The plans that I make will be guided by a robust Risk Assessment. I want to share some aspects of the arrangements with you, so that you know what to expect in September:

- All Year 1 to Year 6 pupils are expected to return to school on Thursday 3rd September. Your child will receive their end of year report next Monday and there will be a letter in the pack to let you know which class they will be in and who their teacher will be in September.
- Our new Reception pupils will follow a staggered entry programme from the 3rd September which will be sent to parents before the end of this term.
- The key to keeping everyone Covid safe, continues to have an emphasis on preventing the spread of the virus through social distancing. Children will be in 'Class bubbles' not social distancing from each other but contact with other bubbles will be avoided. Pupils will face forwards in lessons rather than sit side on.
- Adults can cross between the bubbles but must maintain a two metre distance from each other and from the children wherever possible.
- We will ask you to drop off and collect your child at a designated point around the school grounds and we will stagger drop off and collection times. Unfortunately, parents are not permitted on to the school site without an appointment.
- Lunch times and Break times will be staggered and carefully managed so that groups don't mix. We will return to serving our normal full menu (Summer menu).
- Children will have a class assembly once per week with me and also one with their teacher. I will visit each class on Friday to give out certificates. Sadly, we will not be able to have Celebration Assembly until more restrictions are lifted.
- We will be able to offer socially distanced sports clubs but teachers clubs will not run at present. PE with Premier Sport will continue to be taught in the school week.
- Mrs Metson will be with us to deliver music but sadly we will not be allowed to sing!



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- Children will return to school in their school uniform and other equipment such as PE Kits etc should come in to school as normal. There will be no restrictions on bringing essential items for learning in to school or sending things home. The children will be able to share books and equipment within their bubble as they usually would.
- Attendance from the 3rd September is mandatory. Therefore, if a parent chooses not to send their child back to school, without a valid reason eg: the child needs to shield, they may be subject to a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

I fully appreciate that for many of you this will be a worrying time and the thought of sending your child back to school may be an alarming prospect. We will continue to operate a rigorous hygiene programme of hand washing and sanitising. Areas will be thoroughly cleaned between each bubble and we will undertake a Deep Clean of the whole school once per week. It will no longer be necessary to take the children's temperatures when they arrive at school.

We will update our return to school Covid Safe Parent Guidance, in line with the new Risk Assessment and this will be sent to you before September. If you have not yet sent your child back to school, we will ask you to sign a Covid Home School Agreement. Information will be available on the school website. If you have any questions regarding your child returning to school in September, please email the office and we will get back to you.

Once again I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to you all for the amazing job you have done with Home Schooling-it has been a long road! I am determined that we will move forwards together as a school community, galvanised by the experiences of the last few months, to a brighter and stronger future.

Kind regards

Mrs Kerrell

Headteacher