



02/09/2020

Dear Parent,

As our start date approaches, we are looking forward to welcoming all our pupils back in school on Tuesday 8th September, and would like to take this opportunity to update you on the plans for their return, in line with the current government guidance.

Our priority continues to be the safety and welfare of all pupils and staff, through the minimising of risks, following the local and national guidance. We will strive to ensure that all pupils have access to a full curriculum where it is safe to do so. We will still be encouraging limited contact and limited sharing of equipment, unless it can be cleaned between use. Where 1-1 support is required all recommended safety measures will be in place for both staff and pupils, to allow learning to continue.

When pupils return in September they will be taught in their normal class groups with a maximum of 12 pupils. Bigger bubbles (consisting of several classes/key stages) will be put in place, to ensure that we are able to follow the new social distancing measures required in the government guidelines.

Our primary and secondary children will be kept separate to minimise contact. We have created 4 separate bubbles according to the age of pupils:

Key Stage 1 Bubble - Birch, Tulip and Honeysuckle classes.

Key Stage 2 Bubble - Willow, Sycamore, Hawthorn, Holly and Mulberry classes.

Key Stage 3 Bubble - Yr7, Yr8 and Yr9 classes.

Key Stage 4 Bubble - Yr10 and Yr11 classes.

Each bubble will have its own yard at break and lunchtime, and its own time-slot in the dinner hall. Pupils from one bubble will not mix with those from the other bubbles at any time. They will, however, mix with the pupils in their own bubble.

The times of the school day have had to change slightly for each group, to allow separate drop off and pick up times of the four bubbles. This means that we can limit the number of pupils arriving at or leaving school at the same time. Pupils who access home/school transport will only be travelling to school with children from their key stage bubble.

Please note entry and exit has now change for each bubble, access is as follows -:

KS1 Bubble - Main entrance 8.55am - end of day 2.55pm (Birch class 2.45pm)

KS2 Bubble - Art exit door 8.55am - end of day 2.55pm

KS3 Bubble - Main entrance - 8.45am - end of day 3.10pm

KS4 Bubble - Art room entrance - 8.45am - end of day 3.10pm.

As stated above the Primary day will run with a slightly adjusted start and finish time, 8.55am and 2.55pm. The day will then run as follows:-

8.55 - 10.15am tutor/lesson time
10.15 - 10.40am break and snacktime
10.40 - 11.30/45am lesson time
11.30 - start of lunch for KS1
11.45-12.15pm staggered lunch sittings for KS2
12.15. - 12.45pm playtime.
12.45 - 2.55pm lesson time

A slightly bigger change in the timing of the school day will be put into place for our secondary pupils, who will start at 8.45am and finish at 3.10pm. Lunch will take place at 1.10pm.

All secondary children will be taught in their own form room and will only move classrooms to access the practical lessons. Subject teachers will move from group to group to deliver lessons. Where any pupils require 1-1 support, staff may wear clear visors, masks and gloves.

Across the whole age range, pupils will be expected to have their own equipment, pens, pencils rulers etc, which they will keep on their desk. This equipment will be supplied by school.

All children will be expected to return to school wearing full uniform. We would encourage you to provide a clean polo top and jumper each day for your child to wear, if possible. We appreciate that this can be difficult, however regular changes of clothes reduces the risk of the virus spreading.

To avoid pupils changing for PE, we would like all children to attend school in their PE kit on the days they have a PE lesson. This will limit contact between pupils in changing rooms, and also reduce the need for staff to support pupils to change their clothes. Your child will receive a timetable highlighting the days when they get PE lessons once they are in school.

School dinners will resume as normal from the beginning of term. Should you need to apply for free school meals, please contact the school office. Otherwise meals can be paid for through our online payment system, ParentPay.

We hope that all therapies and input from external services will resume in September. However, we are currently awaiting further guidance and risk assessments to support this and will inform parents/carers when this is in place.

Children do not require a bag. The only equipment children should bring are a water bottle labelled with their name (this can then be left in school) and their packed lunch if they do not require a school lunch. We need to minimise equipment being brought in and out of school

There is also new guidance on facemasks for all secondary children. We will not be making these compulsory, however your child can wear one if they wish, when not in lessons. If they do bring a mask they must bring a resealable bag to store the mask in at times when they aren't worn, eg during lessons or eating lunch. As there is no longer any movement between lessons this will minimise how often these need to be worn.

Prior to the summer holidays parents/carers of children who take medication in school will have received a letter notifying them that their child's medication had expired. If your child receives medication in school the packaging must have the prescription label on it and be in date. Medication must be returned with your child on the first day of term. Your child cannot be in school without their medication. If medication is not supplied from home, you will be contacted and it would be expected that it is dropped off immediately or you may be requested to collect your child from school.

The government has informed us that, from September, attendance procedures will be reinstated and all children will be expected to be in school. Those not attending will once again need to provide medical evidence or details of extenuating circumstances to support absence. Failure to do so may result in the LA Attendance Team taking action. This is not a situation that we would wish any of our families to have to deal with. So if you are concerned about your child returning and have no medical guidance to state that they should stay at home, please contact school as soon as possible to share your concerns. We will offer reassurance where we are able to, and may also be able to suggest some measures which will allow your son/daughter to return in the safest way possible.

Should you require further information about the procedures detailed above, please contact school and we will do our best to answer all questions and put your mind at ease. Ultimately, as you are all aware, school can never be totally risk free, however we will follow all of the government guidance available at any given time, and put measures in place to minimise risks for pupils and staff as far as possible.

Please note: in some unavoidable circumstances the arrangements above may be subject to change (for example, where government guidelines change, or where external transport providers have difficulty with the new times for the school day). We will inform you of any changes.

We are very much looking forward to having all our pupils back in school on Tuesday. Any queries please contact school either via the email info@bamburghschool.co.uk or send an inbox message through the school facebook page.

Mr Nord, Mrs Nichol and Ms Chamberlain