

Peel Park Primary School and Nursery



Peel Park
Primary School
and Nursery
The Path to Success

September 2020 Information Pack for Parents/Carers, re - Covid19.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Many of you will be wondering what the arrangements are for your child returning to school in September this year. I need to make it very clear that the arrangements in this pack are what we know and can make decisions on now (today), given the most recent guidance and laws from the Government (DFE). These could change over the next few months, given the rate of infection is still high in Bradford, but for now this is the information and arrangements we have decided upon - for now!

What time will my child begin and finish school?

Please note that we MUST stagger the start and finish times of children at school in order to reduce the number of adults coming together on the school grounds at any one time. I know this may be very difficult for parents/carers who have two or more children in our school. If this is you and you have two or more children starting school at different times please try to drop them off at their allocated time(s). However, if this is impossible, for example, you have three children who are all beginning and finishing school at different times and you work full-time and need to get to work, then please drop off ALL your children at the earlier time and pick them up at the latest time. We will always ensure they are well looked after but formal lessons will only begin and always end at the times below for each year group.

Staff will be outside and on hand to direct you to the correct door each morning of the first 3 days back.

Year	Arrival at School	Entry Door	Going Home Time*	Exit Door
Nursery	Morning = 08.30am	Nursery Door	11.30am	Nursery Door
	Afternoon = 12.15pm		3.15pm	
Reception	08:45am	External Classroom Doors	3.00pm	External Classroom Doors
Year 1	09.00am	External Classroom Doors	3.15pm	External Classroom Doors
Year 2	09.00am	Y2 (south) Glass Stairwell	3.15pm	Y2 (south) Glass Stairwell
Year 3	08.30am	Y2 (south) Glass Stairwell	2.45pm	Rowan - Y2 (south) Glass Stairwell, Chestnut - Door adjacent to R Pine and Birch - door adjacent to 1 Maple
Year 4	08.45am	North Glass Stairwell (next to Home from Home)	3.00pm	North Glass Stairwell (next to Home from Home)
Year 5	08.30am	Dining Hall doors	2.45pm	Dining Hall doors
Year 6	09.00am	Dining Hall doors	3.15pm	Dining Hall doors

***Please note, we will be closing earlier on a Friday so that we can arrange an extra Covid deep clean in school. The finish times for a Friday will be as follows:**

Reception – 12.45pm

Year 1 – 1pm

Year 2 – 1pm

Year 3 – 12.30pm

Year 4 – 12.45pm

Year 5 – 12.30pm

Year 6 – 1pm

Our 'Open Door Policy' to parents/carers will be suspended for the foreseeable future and NO parents/carers will be allowed in the building except for visiting the front enquires desk in the main reception area (main entrance). Parents/carers with children in classrooms that are located downstairs (Nursery, Reception and Year 1) should NOT enter the classrooms via the external doors and should stand well clear at the beginning and end of the day. Your child will be sent out to you. Please be very patient.

Parents/carers MUST NOT stop to chat and congregate in groups anywhere on the school grounds, especially near entrances and exits, such as doors, gates and pathways.

When you do visit school, please remember to always socially distance by 2 metres (markings on the ground to help you) if you can but at least 1 metre plus, at all times. We will not need to operate a one way system around the school but please keep to the left hand side of any external (outside) footpath, especially where paths are tight, such as the Forest School path and round near the staffroom.

Will the arrangements for school dinners be as they were?

Unfortunately, we cannot allow large numbers of children to gather in the Dining Hall to eat lunch. With this in mind parents/carers are encouraged to send their child(ren) to school with a packed lunch - sandwiches and fruit etc. If you would like your child to be provided with a school dinner and/or your child is in receipt of free school meals (including universal free school meals for ALL children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2), then we will be providing a 'Grab Bag' (packed lunch) for them that will be chosen by each child by 10am each morning (from a menu) and then delivered to their classroom by their allocated lunchtime slot. This will be reviewed once the colder weather begins and we hope to begin serving a hot option within a few weeks. ALL lunches will be eaten in 'bubbles', in the classroom, with the an adult present. ALL food waste and uneaten food will need to be taken home and disposed of at home.

Will my child(ren) be able to play-out at break and lunchtimes?

Break times and lunchtimes will be especially challenging when the weather is poor, as our children really cannot be cooped up in a single classroom all day. With this in mind, we are operating a rota system at both break and lunchtimes for use of the playgrounds. Equipment will be sanitised and wiped down after each bubble has used it.

Can my child still wear his/her school uniform?

The clothes your child(ren) wear for school each and every day will need to be washed as soon as they arrive home. With this in mind I am suspending the School Uniform Policy until further notice. Children are more than welcome to attend school in their Peel Park uniform but it must be washed each night - easy if you have lots of items of each piece of uniform but not so easy if you don't! Failing this children can attend in practical clothing (playing out clothes) and you should expect them to come home a little muddy and 'grubby' each day as there will be lots of outdoor learning taking place! The main thing here is to make sure the clothes they wear each day are washed thoroughly as soon as they arrive home. Once you know their PE day, they can then attend in PE kit for these days - as per normal. Windows will always be open in school, at all times, to allow for good ventilation. Parents/carers are advised to send their child(ren) to school in/with the appropriate clothing (e.g. a coat and jumper), especially as the autumn approaches.

Will you still be having assemblies?

All assemblies will take place in 'bubbles' and parents/carers will not be invited to these. My apologies for this but I am sure you understand why.

How will school maintain good hygiene standards?

On entry to school your child (and you if you are attending for an appointment) will be expected to either wash and/or sanitise their/your hands. We have bought extra, portable sinks for this, plus lots of hand sanitiser dispensers too. The hand sanitiser has got to have at least 70% alcohol gel content as this destroys the virus and also helps the liquid evaporate from the skin. It does not and is not absorbed through the skin so is fine for all to use and deemed as 'halal' (allowed) by medical professionals. This is a non-negotiable and is in place to keep you and your children safe.

Does my child have to attend school from September, even if I am not happy about this?

Those people who know me will know how safety conscious I am. I have kept Peel Park closed to most children over the last few weeks, despite pressure from both national and local Government to open. I have done this as I know that we are a unique community with many elderly relatives with underlying health conditions living in the same properties as many of our children. However, come Wednesday, 9th September, 2020, all things being equal, I expect to see **all children back in school**. The Government (our employers) are quite clear on this and are really pushing for me to issue fines and penalty notices to those parents/carers who do not send their children back, if all is 'OK'. We are ready with our curriculum to send it all home again should we be asked to go into a second lockdown but we hope this doesn't happen. **However, if your child or anyone in your household shows symptoms of Covid19 then your child must be kept at home and you must let school know asap by calling: 01274 639377.**

Are you still accepting cash payments?

We will no longer accept cash/money at school as full or part payments for things such as milk, school trips and school dinners. Parents/carers should log on and use our online system at www.parentpay.com. If you have any difficulties with this please email or call our office and they will assist you: office@peelpark.bradford.sch.uk or 01274 639377.

How long will this all last for?

Covid19 is set to be around for a long time. I am going off the assumption that we will have to 'deal' with it for the whole of the next academic year (2020-21) and that over winter (traditional flu season), things may get 'bad' once again. We plan for the worst and if it doesn't happen then anything else is a bonus!

Will Teachers/staff be wearing PPE?

Some staff may be wearing PPE, such as a clear visor when teaching the children. This depends on the individual risk assessment for that adult/teacher; the task they are carrying out and in which area of school they work. Kitchen staff will be wearing face masks and gloves when preparing food.

How will my child(ren) catch-up?

Let's be very clear here that 'catching up' is not the case, it is **recovery!** Recovering each child to where they were with their learning in March and, at the same time, teaching new curriculum content. We are aiming to do this by Christmas - all being well. We all know that lots of children have done lots of work since being home schooled but we are also aware that some have done very little (and most other children fall somewhere in-between). It is my teachers' jobs to find out what the children remember and know and then teach them what they do not know and/or not remember. The staff at Peel Park are experts at this. The two main foci will be on Mental Health and Reading.

How can I help?

Thank you to those parents/carers in our community who have contacted me to ask how they can help our children once school resumes in September. We would like an 'army' of volunteers to be trained up and allocated to a bubble each in order to make sure the children's reading skills are where they should be. If you would like to be one of these volunteers (2 hrs a week) then please email me: head@peelpark.bradford.sch.uk, asap. Full training will be given. WE NEED YOU! Dad's are especially welcome! Thank you. Failing this please make sure you read with your child EVERY NIGHT for five minutes for the whole of the next academic year, Sept 2020 - July, 2021.

What day and date does school begin for my child(ren)?

School will re-open to all children in **Years 1 to 6 on Wednesday, 9th September, at the allocated times above**. If your child is new to Nursery or Reception then you will receive a postal letter telling you the exact date and time that your child will begin school in September, but here is an overview:

Week beginning 7th September

- Reception children to start transition sessions in small groups from Wednesday, 9th September.
- Children who were in our Nursery before lockdown to start back on Wednesday, 9th September.

Week beginning 14th September

- Reception children to continue with transition sessions in small groups all this week.
- Children new to Nursery to start Nursery in small groups from Tuesday, 15th September.

Week beginning 21st September

- Reception children to start school full time: 08.45 – 3.00
- Children new to Nursery to continue to start in small groups all this week.

Will I be receiving anymore Free School Meal Vouchers from school via Edened or by collecting them from school if I do not have an email address?

No. This scheme is now closed as the last payment of £105 per pupil was made last week.

Have school carried out a full risk assessment for opening in September?

A full, new risk assessment will follow in due course, as will more detail on many individual issues. This pack is to inform you of some key decisions and to give you a "flavour" of what school is going to be like in September. It might provoke as many, if not more, questions than it answers, but we have to start somewhere. Keeping year groups segregated, as per Government guidance, is going to require the use of all of the classrooms and all of the large spaces in school and lots and lots of reminders for our children both at school and at home. I will publish the whole-school risk assessment on our website week beginning 30th August 2020. I am leaving it until then as the guidance to schools from the DFE is continually changing and being updated, so doing this now will mean that in 7 weeks time it is likely to be out of date.

School had an Ofsted inspection a few days before lockdown, where is the report?

It has been sent out with this pack! Enjoy! We are very proud of what it says about our children and our school in the report and we hope you are too.

A Personal Message from the Headteacher:

The last few months have been very odd, as I am sure you will all agree. School hasn't felt like a school and being here with only a handful of children can sometimes get to us, as teachers, as we like lots of children and life around us - this is how we thrive and what motivates us to do our jobs to the very best of our abilities in order for your children to thrive too. I am sure you, as adults, have had your 'wobble moments' too. One thing that is clear, moving forward, is that Covid19 is here to stay, for at least this next academic year and until a vaccine is found, so we have to get use to life in school (and out of school) with more 'risk'.

I have always seen it as my first priority to help keep our children safe and protected from harm (safeguarding), before we can even begin to think about teaching them, as an unhappy and/or unhealthy child is not usually in the right frame of mind to learn. Over the last few months this has extended to you and your families as we all know Covid19 affects older people more than it does younger (it can still make children very ill but is less likely to). Like you, I have spent sleepless nights worrying not only about my own family but about the children in my care and about you and your families too, especially knowing that many of our parents/carers were furloughed from their jobs or made redundant and knowing that many of our children live with grandparents and great-grandparents in their households. I know and still believe I made the right decision by not opening to more children last month, this has been strengthened by the big rise in Covid19 cases in Bradford when schools did re-open. I hope you all support me in this.

Moving forward, my main focus for September and beyond is making school as safe as possible by mitigating against all the risks that still exist come the new term, as much as we can. Please bear with us as we do this - it is for the protection of all our community, including you and your relatives. I apologise now and in advance if children are, for example, late out of class for a few days or don't get the sandwich they wanted at lunchtime etc. - most of how we will be working is alien and new to us too.

I hope we can all avoid as much anxiety and aggravation as possible, by working together as we usually do, in a spirit of openness and co-operation. When we pull together as a team, with staff, students and parents/carers working together, we can achieve amazing things! While we find the best possible solutions to the many puzzles and challenges we are being set at present, we all need to remain open-minded and flexible. The coming year will hopefully see a gradual return to something more familiar, but it will take time, and we might have to go through a number of changes before we reach our eventual destination.

Knowing you all, and knowing the ways you have all responded so wonderfully to the challenges we have already faced since March, I have the greatest possible confidence in our ability to get through this and to come out the other side even better, even stronger, and even more awesome than Peel Park is already. It is a privilege to lead this school and to work with the individuals who comprise it and I would like to reassure everyone again that the number one priority from the Governors, myself, and the Leadership Team, is to look after the health, safety and well-being of all members of our community. We are truly all in this together, and that in itself gives me enormous reassurance which I hope you can all share.

Wishing you all a more 'normal' and relaxing summer...

I thank you for your continued support.

Mr Mason-Edwards

P.S. If you have any questions then please email me on: head@peelpark.bradford.sch.uk or call/text me on: 07792 402654. We are also on Facebook and have our own app that you should all have if you have a smart phone (search Jigsaw school app) then select our school.