



Forest Academy
Bury Road, Brandon
Suffolk, IP27 0FP

Tel: 01842 810309
E mail: forestadmin@forestacademy.co.uk
Headteachers: Mrs A Grimes and Mrs L Rourke

14th May 2021

Update on School Covid Measures from May 17th 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all you have done over the past year to help keep everyone safe and your flexibility as we try to function as normally as possible to provide the education and childhood experiences your children deserve.

The drop off and collection has gotten quicker and easier but please can we reiterate the importance of the drop and go system. **It is important that you arrive at the correct time and stay socially distanced.**

The changes suggested in the guidance for schools are minimal. Staff no longer need to wear masks in class but must in shared areas. Many of our staff still are not vaccinated and some have medical conditions that make them vulnerable, so they will continue to wear a mask.

We still cannot mix our bubbles in school e.g. school assemblies, however we feel ready to return to year group bubbles, rather than class bubbles. This means the children can play with their parallel class at break time. We worked in this way in autumn term and it is easy to manage and beneficial for all. Should there be a dramatic change in the infection rates locally, we may need to reverse this again. We are also starting to have a rotation of year groups in the hall to eat lunch. The tables and chairs are wiped before and after each sitting. Eating and chatting with your friends at lunch time is such an important part of school and we are working closely with the kitchen staff and MDSAs to manage this.

The school day: The government still recommends we stagger start, finish and break times to ensure social distancing, therefore we will continue with our current system.



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Company Number: 07400940

Working in Partnership with
Elveden Church of England Primary Academy.

We would like to outline the measures we are taking to ensure hygiene and social distancing is managed as safely as possible:

- Plastic fencing to divide the playground area and to provide a clear route on to/off site. Please read and follow all instructions and be aware that we may need to adjust these if we feel an alternative system is required.
- **Any child that displays symptoms will need to be collected from school immediately and be tested for COVID-19.** You must notify us immediately of the test results whether negative or positive. If the child tests positive, their bubble, including the adults, will need to self-isolate for a further 10 days, along with all members of their household.
- Currently, guidance does not require children or adults to wear facemasks in class except when adults are administering first aid and personal care or when adults are moving around shared areas. **We will review this constantly in line with changing guidance.**
- Children will be in Year Group bubbles and adults will remain with them throughout the day.
- The school building is split into four key areas and the children will stay in the appropriate part of the building, using the allocated toilets.
 - EYFS: The EYFS area of the school
 - Year 1: The Wildflower Building
 - Years 2, 3 and 4: the LKS2 area of the main building
 - Years 5 and 6 : the UKS2 area of the main building
- Children will need to stay in their bubbles and allocated areas to avoid cross contamination and to minimise the impact should there be a positive case of COVID 19.
- Children will stay in their classroom for most of the day, but will have access to a designated space outside for outdoor play at lunch and break time.
- Desks and seats will be forward facing in KS1 and KS2.
- We continue to clean key areas throughout the school day.
- Children have their own allocated resources on their desks.
- We limit the number of resources available to ensure they are cleaned regularly.
- Reading books returned from home must be placed in the class box provided and these will be isolated and cleaned before they are given out again.
- **Home learning packs are to be returned on TUESDAY** to allow time for staff to isolate before handling.
- **No parents are permitted in school unless specifically invited** and we ask that you phone/email the school if you need to speak to a member of staff to avoid direct contact.
- **School attendance is compulsory** online home learning and packs will continue for those children not in school and will be set by class teachers. E.g. anyone needing to self-isolate.
- We will ensure children wash their hands throughout the school day and hand sanitisers are installed throughout the school. Please alert staff if your child is becoming sensitive to soaps and sanitizers.

Company Number: 07400940
Working in Partnership with
Elveden Church of England Primary Academy.



Forest Academy
Bury Road, Brandon
Suffolk, IP27 0FP

Tel: 01842 810309

E mail: forestadmin@forestacademy.co.uk

Headteachers: Mrs A Grimes and Mrs L Rourke

-
- Detailed risk assessments are undertaken regularly following Suffolk County Council guidance and these are available on the website.
 - We provide Breakfast Club for our working parents but food choices are currently much more limited and children are expected to eat and sit in designated spaces. This must be booked in advance. Thank you to those parents who have booked this already.
 - Only one parent/carer should escort a child to school.
 - Any Year 5/6 child who brings a mobile must give it to the class teacher, not leave at the front office
 - Outdoor equipment/apparatus/climbing frames **MUST NOT** be used except under the strict supervision of school staff that will ensure it is cleaned after use. We will rota the use for different classes/bubbles and ensure it is cleaned after use.
 - Reading books and home learning can go home and be returned to school however, please keep all bags to a minimum.
 - School dinners continue to be served (hot/vegetarian option/ jacket potato). These are served in a box and distributed to the different classes or around the dining hall.
 - Please send your child's own water bottle to be used for all drinks.
 - Children do not change for PE., however the children will be physically active during their PE lesson and we will keep doing the Daily Mile. On their PE days, please send your child in a white/red tee-shirt, black shorts or jogging bottoms and appropriate footwear. **Please wear the usual jumper/sweatshirt on top for the rest of the day.**
 - Children will have outdoor learning and Forest School sessions. For these sessions, it is vital they have trousers/leggings and a long sleeved top.
 - The children spend as much time as possible outside, and we need to have windows open. Therefore, it is important that they have a jumper/sweatshirt and a coat in school when it is chilly.

Hopefully, things will get easier and some of the restrictions will be lifted soon.

We thank you for your understanding and for your ongoing support.

Mrs Grimes



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Company Number: 07400940

Working in Partnership with
Elveden Church of England Primary Academy.