



Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School

Loved by God; United in Learning

Headteacher: Scott Tait

Deputy Headteacher: Lizzie Sharpe

*Love, Unity,
Courage
and Inspiration*

Friday 10th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: September opening for all pupils

I hope you and your family are well and staying safe.

I am really pleased that we will be able to welcome all of our children back to school in September. It has been a long time since we were together as a full community and we are really looking forward to having everyone back.

I realise that for some of you, the thought of bringing your child back to school after the summer break may feel quite worrying. I want to reassure you that we are already preparing our school to ensure that year groups do not mix with other year groups, that cleaning regimes are increased and that we can all move around the school safely without meeting too many other people. We will continue to focus on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and distancing where possible. Classrooms will feel more normal, but we will remove much of the furniture in the room so that we can keep children apart where possible and continue to make sure the children have equipment for their sole use. Shared equipment will be regularly cleaned. The children will be taught some new routines and rules so that we can keep each other safe. Staggered start and end times to the day will continue to be necessary to allow us to get all children into school safely, but we will try **and reduce these alterations to as few** as possible.

I want to remind you that attending school will be compulsory again in September. This means all children should be in school, unless they are unwell or have a reason for absence that has been agreed. If your child is not attending school, you will need to call the school office to confirm as per our school attendance policy.

Please do not send your child into school if your child is unwell.

To confirm, following the guidance from the Government last week, school will be open to all children from Monday 7th September 2020. We will be following all Government guidance and therefore this is subject to a constant review of the local and national situations. In order for us to offer the safest possible environment, the school will be following bespoke risk assessments for Bishop Aldhelm's.

The following information outlines our expectations and considerations ready for your child's return in September.

Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children.
Hamwic Education Trust. Registered address: Unit E, Mill Yard, Nursling Street, Southampton, SO16 0AJ.
A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (Company Number 10749662)

www.bishopaldhelms.poole.sch.uk

Telephone: 01202 715100 Fax: 01202 307640 E-Mail: office@bishopaldhelms.poole.sch.uk

Address: Winston Avenue, Poole, Dorset, BH12 1PG

Summer catch up

Your child will be sent two summer learning packs: one focusing on Maths and one with a cross-curricular focus. We acknowledge that some children have not been in school for a significant period of time therefore, the return to school in September could be quite a challenge, both emotionally and academically. The purpose of the learning packs is to help bridge the gap between home learning and school and to prepare children for their return to the classroom – building stamina for learning.

The packs are not designed to be completed all in one go. We suggest that it might be useful to do a little bit of each pack every day, during the last 2 weeks of the summer holidays. This will support the children in transitioning their minds back into learning mode and help build up their concentration and focus ready for their return. We would also ask you to continue reading with your child every day over the holidays.

Summer Holiday Childcare - Kidscape

I am pleased to announce Kidscape will be open for the **summer holidays** from the **20th July 2020** at their Livingstone Road site. Unfortunately, due to the current climate they are only able to operate from the Livingstone Road site as it is a separated building for them to use. This allows them to ensure they meet all Government guidance in relation to COVID safe practice.

Despite only opening in one setting they are still happy to take children from across all schools within the area.

However, spaces are limited, and bookings will be on a first come first basis. Their cancellation policy is that 48-hours notice must be given for any cancellation, otherwise you will be charged as per normal.

Booking can be made via:

Email admin@kidscapeclub.com	Facebook – Kidscape Bishop	Text – Bishop 07497390001
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For any other enquiries, please call 07985704321.

September Guidance

If you are planning a trip abroad, please do consider the current quarantine laws.

Exemption rules - from 10 July 2020 you will not have to self-isolate when you arrive in England, if you:

- are travelling or returning from one of the countries with travel corridor exemption
- have not been to or stopped in a country that's not on the travel corridors exemption list in the previous 14 days

This applies to all travel to England, by train, ferry, coach, air or any other route.

If you have been to or stopped in a country that is not on the travel corridors exemption list you will have to self-isolate until 14 days have passed since you left that country.

Monday 7th September 2020

Bishop Aldhelm's will comply with health and safety law, which requires us to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. We have thoroughly reviewed our health and safety risk assessments and drawn up plans for the Autumn term that addresses the risks identified using the system of controls

set out below. These are an adapted form of the system of protective measures that will have been familiar from the summer term.

Essential measures include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

All children to return to school in school uniform on Monday 7th September 2020.

Pick up and drop offs

We know that travel to school patterns differ greatly. We will continue to stagger start and finish times to keep groups apart as they arrive and leave school. However, our staggered start and finish times do not reduce the amount of overall teaching time. Our staggered start and end times allow for safe drop off and collections.

We are asking all parent/carers and children to respect social distancing when waiting to enter school. This includes not gathering at the school gates and only coming into the school reception area if an appointment has been made. The drop off zone will be open at the beginning of the school day. ***It is essential that you keep to these times.***

Please note changes to times from previous letters

Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6) children drop off 8.40 – 8.50am – and collection at 3.15pm

- Year 3 & 4 children to enter via the grey gates at the front of the school
- Year 5 & 6 children to enter via the blue gates at the front of the school

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 are able to walk home independently at the end of the school day – please inform the school office if this is your intention.

Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2) children drop off 8.50am – 9am and collection at 3pm

- Year 1 children to enter via the blue gates at the front of the school.
- Year 2 children to enter via the grey gates at the front of the school.

EYFS children

- EYFS children to enter via the grey gates at the front of the school.

From Monday 21st September to Friday 2nd October.

For those children attending morning settling in sessions - 9.05am – 9.10am and collection at 11:15 am.

For those children attending afternoon sessions - 1pm and collection at 3pm.

From Monday 5th October all EYFS children will attend full time - 9.05am – 9.10am and collection 3pm.

Children should be dropped off by one family member and must enter each classroom via their classroom door – not the communal toilet areas.

If a sibling is in a different Key Stage with a differing drop off time, you will be able to drop off at the same time.

At school drop off all parents/carers will exit via the rear gates and at the end of the day all children and parents/carers will exit via the rear gates. We will be restricting drop off and collection to one parent/carer per family. Blue badge holders will be able to go back to their car once it is deemed safe to do so and will not have to walk to the rear gate. We must have protocols in place for adult-to-adult contact to be kept to a minimum.

1st day transition – Monday 7th September

All children will register in their familiar classrooms from this academic year. Children that had been attending school in differing bubbles will return to their original classrooms. Their current class teacher will greet all children where possible. Children will spend the majority of the morning with their class teacher from this academic year – sharing stories and celebrating the summer, last year and their return to school.

The afternoon will mirror our tried and tested routine of previous years. All children will be told who their new class teacher is and will spend time in the afternoon in their new classroom with their new class teacher. All children will return to their original classrooms to be dismissed at the end of the school day. All children will leave school knowing who their new class teacher is and with a letter for you containing this information.

1st week and on...

From Tuesday 8th September 2020, all children will start the day with their new class teacher in their new classrooms. We have learnt that many, many children really have missed school and cannot wait to get going. We will be sensitive to this transition and support all children in our 'Bishop Aldhelm's way'.

Consistent groups reduce the risk of transmission by limiting the number of pupils and staff in contact with each other to only those within the class. This has been used in school in the summer term in recognition that children, and especially the youngest children, cannot socially distance from staff or from each other and this provides an additional protective measure. Maintaining distinct groups or 'bubbles' that do not mix makes it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate, and keep that number as small as possible.

However, the use of small groups restricts the normal operation of schools and presents both educational and logistical challenges, including the cleaning and use of shared spaces, such as playgrounds, the dining hall, and toilets, and the provision of specialist teaching.

For the Autumn term, maintaining consistent groups remains important, but given the decrease in the prevalence of coronavirus (COVID-19) and the resumption of the full range of curriculum subjects, we have changed/increased the size of these groups in line with government guidance.

All children will remain in their class bubbles whilst inside for the Autumn term and until provided with evidence and/or guidance that would suggest that this can be relaxed. Classes within year groups will be able to mix outside for break and lunchtimes. Some children may access break out groups within their year group to support academic catch-up programmes – you will be notified if this is the case for your child.

Measures within the classroom

Maintaining a distance between people whilst inside and reducing the amount of time they are in face to face to contact lowers the risk of transmission. Ideally, adults should maintain a 2 metre distance from each other, and from children. We know that this is not always possible, particularly when working with younger children, but if adults can do this when circumstances allow that will help. In particular, they should

avoid close face to face contact and minimise time spent within 1 metre of anyone. Similarly, it will not be possible when working with many pupils who have complex needs or who need close contact care. These pupils' educational and care support should be provided as normal.

For children old enough, they should also be supported to maintain distance and not touch staff and their peers where possible. This will not be possible for the youngest children and some children with complex needs and it is not feasible in some schools where space does not allow.

We have made small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible. This includes seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on, this, on occasions has meant moving unnecessary furniture out of classrooms to make more space.

School Lunches – Packed Lunches

We will provide meal options for all children who are in school. Meals will be available free of charge to all infant pupils and pupils who meet the benefits-related free school meals eligibility criteria.

Please see the attached menus that you will be able to order online. <https://dorset.mealselector.co.uk/>

All children will remain in their classrooms when eating lunch. Their breaks will be staggered. The following options are open to you all for lunch:

1. Provide own packed lunch (no nuts), or
2. Order a packed lunch through Chartwells, our packed lunch provider. This includes Free School Meals and Universal Infant Free School Meals for Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2. Parents/carers will need to register with Chartwells if they have not already done so.

In order to have their meal ready in school by the 7th September 2020 - parents/carers will need to have placed the order with Chartwells by the 23rd August 2020.

Unfortunately, we will only have a cold food option for the month of September. We will look to re-introduce Hot School Meals as soon as we can safely do so.

Lookout Club

We have carefully considered how we can make such provision work alongside our wider protective measures, including keeping children within their year groups where possible.

We would like to advise you to limit the number of different wraparound providers you access, as far as possible. Where you may use childcare providers or out of setting activities for your children, we encourage you to assure yourselves that the providers are carefully considering their own protective measures, and only use those providers that can demonstrate this. As with physical activity during the school day, contact sports should not take place.

With this in mind, we will be opening both Breakfast and Afterschool provisions for Lookout Club. Places are limited and can be booked on a first come first serve basis. All bookings must be paid for and booked on line. Where/when possible children will be placed in year group Lookout Club Bubbles.

Autumn Term - Curriculum

We have said all along that your child's emotional health and wellbeing has been hugely important and this focus will not change in September. We will support with all transitions but we will also look to accelerate catch up and close the gap on the learning opportunities that have been lost. We have seen a real thirst for learning from the children currently attending school and we no doubt will see this from the majority of our children. So many have embraced home learning and have continued to progress - we will continue to support and challenge them when they come back into school. Some children have found the home

learning a challenge and, just as we will challenge others, we will support and guide the children that have found the last few months more difficult.

We will be limiting the number of items that the children need to bring into school. **We will provide all stationery for the children- children therefore must not bring pencil cases into school. We will also publish your child's PE and Games days – the children must wear their PE/Games kits to school on those days. We will not have a facility for children to store PE/Games kit in school or be able to assist with changing.**

We would also like to take the positives from remote learning. Therefore from September we will be sending home all home learning tasks on a Wednesday via Google Classroom. If you have not set this up or used it during the partial school closure, your child's year group will resend out clear instructions on how to do this.

Reading is very important and as a school we had made huge progress with reading engagement prior to lockdown - our library will reopen from September and our children will be encouraged to take books home. When books are returned, they will be held for 72 hours prior to being ready for a reissue.

We recognise that some children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) (whether with education, health and care plans or on SEN support) will need specific help and preparation for the changes to routine that this will involve. Miss Sharpe and our teachers have plans to meet these needs so please do not worry.

Cleaning

We have introduced enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces and this will continue in the Autumn term. Our cleaning schedule ensures that cleaning is generally enhanced and includes:

- more frequent cleaning of rooms / shared areas that are used by different groups.
- frequently touched surfaces being cleaned more often than normal.
- different groups don't need to be allocated their own toilet blocks, but toilets will be cleaned regularly and pupils will be encouraged to clean their hands thoroughly after using the toilet.

Finally...

I totally appreciate that there will be differing levels of anxiety about a school return in September. Nevertheless, rest assured Bishop Aldhelm's is ready! Your children are in the best possible care, with amazing staff and friends for the children to look forward to seeing in September. For now, enjoy your summer, rest up and be ready for great things!

Thank you for your flexibility and support while we work to create a new, safe and supportive 'normal' environment for all of our children.



Mr Tait
Headteacher