

Bredon Hill Academy

Learning Together for Success

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29 August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

September 2020 Updates

We look forward to welcoming our new Year 6 pupils and welcoming back our Year 7 and 8 pupils.

Tuesday 1 September: Teacher Education Day

Wednesday 2 September: Year 6 Transition Day – school is open to Year 6 only

Thursday 3 September – school is open to all year groups

At the heart of our plans is the safety and wellbeing of our Bredon Hill community. We will do all that we can to make school welcoming, happy and as safe as can be. We may be entering a ‘new normal’ in terms of routines but it is our sincerest hope that everyone settles as quickly as possible. We have put measures in place to support our pupils in their return to BHA. These changes are temporary and we will continue to adapt our procedures as further directives and guidance are issued. We will keep you updated.

From September 2020, attendance is once again compulsory and we are instructed to report attendance figures to the Department for Education.

Bubbles

Pupils will be in Year Bubbles and will be predominantly taught in tutor Bubbles. We will introduce zoning across the school site with each Bubble (Year Group) allocated to a different zone. Pupils will remain in their zone as far as possible.

Year 8 Maths Block, DT Block, lower field and areas around maths block.

Year 7 Floors 2 and 3 of the Tower, bottom half of main field and playground.

Year 6 Floor 1 of the Tower, Rooms 8 and 9, top half of main field and courts.

We have produced a map of zone areas and we will ensure that all pupils know their zones. A copy of this map is posted on the school website (BHA: September 2020).

Changes to Start and End Timings to the School Day

Confirmation of these arrangements were e-mailed to parents last Wednesday. Please see website (BHA: September 2020).

County Transport

For further information regarding school transport, please follow the link to [Worcestershire School Transport Guidance Autumn 2020 here.](#)

School Uniform

Pupils will be expected to wear their school uniform. Government guidance says that uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

On PE days, pupils will be able to come to school wearing their PE kit with tracksuit bottoms. Timetables, indicating when PE is scheduled, will be issued on the first day back. All pupils will need to wear their full school uniform during the first week of term.

Structure of the School Day

The structure of the school day has been adapted to account for a staggered start to the day and for staggered break and lunch times. This is to avoid year groups from mixing and to keep movement around the school site to a minimum. Timings will vary from year group to year group. Break and lunch times are slightly shorter so that teaching and learning time is not affected. Please see the website (BHA: September 2020) which shows the breakdown of the school day.

Teaching and Learning

On the whole, pupils will be taught in their tutor groups with no more than 30 pupils. Desks will be arranged facing forward in rows to limit face-to-face contact. Learning groups may be introduced in some core subjects but pupils will remain in their zone area. Each form group will be taught most of the time in one room minimising the need for movement around school. Teachers, rather than pupils, will move to different classrooms. On occasions, there may be a need for a specialist classroom, such as a lab. Here movement will be carefully managed using our one-way system. Each pupil will receive their timetable. We will continue to offer a broad and ambitious curriculum although some subject areas will have to adapt to adhere to rules in place. For example, guidance says no singing in music and no contact sport in PE. Teaching Assistants will continue to support in subject areas and support any social, emotional and wellbeing issues.

We will write to you shortly regarding further changes to the curriculum, teaching and learning and home learning.

Communication

Communication will need to be via e-mail or phone calls to the school office. Please do not come into the school building without an appointment.

School Kitchens

The school kitchens will be open but will initially offer a reduced menu of packed lunches. Pupils may order a packed lunch, which will be delivered to their classroom. Free School Meal pupils will be entitled to a packed lunch. Pupils can order a packed lunch each morning during Form Time. Lunch provision will be reviewed after two weeks and our aim is to extend the menu.

The school kitchen will be closed at break time so drinks, toast and crumpets will not be available. Pupils will need to bring their own morning snack and drink. This will be reviewed after two weeks.

Health and Safety

- Each classroom will have a sanitiser station located near the door. Pupils will have opportunities to wash their hands or sanitise throughout the day, including before entering classrooms and before and after lunch.
- There will be sanitiser, spray, gloves and cloths in all classrooms.
- Pupils will need to keep their belongings in their bag under their allotted desk.
- Each pupil will have a tray to store their exercise books.
- There will be pedal bins in all classrooms.
- Windows and doors will be open for ventilation.
- There will be a one-way system in place in the Tower block to minimise contact.
- We will encourage good respiratory hygiene by regularly promoting 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It'.
- Pupils travelling by bus will need to sit in their allocated Bubble area.
- Face coverings for pupils aged 11 and older are recommended whilst travelling on dedicated school transport and are mandatory for pupils travelling on public transport.
- Pupils may use face coverings in communal areas only, such as corridors. They must wash or sanitise their hands before putting a face covering on and after taking it off. Face coverings will need to be kept in a plastic bag in the child's school bag.
- We have introduced enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products such as detergents and bleach.
- We will encourage pupils to maintain social distance wherever possible.

What will Pupils Need?

- A pencil case including colouring pens or pencils and a glue stick. It is important that pupils are well equipped as they will not be allowed to share stationery.
- A packet of tissues.
- If possible, a small bottle of hand sanitiser.
- A reading book. (The school library will be closed.)
- A snack for morning break. (The kitchens will be closed at break.)

- One or two bottles of water; enough for the day. (The water fountains will not be in use to minimise transmission and to avoid groups of pupils congregating.) Bottles of water can be bought for 50p.)
- A packed lunch or pupils may order a packed lunch each morning at Tutor Time. (Paid through ParentPay.)

Key Points

- No parents, carers or other visitors will be allowed to enter the school building, without an appointment.
- Our risk assessment will be continuously reviewed. If identified risks cannot be mitigated should any circumstances change significantly, children and staff will be sent home.
- There will be a staggered start and end to the day.
- There will be staggered lunch and break times.
- Children must behave in accordance with our Behaviour for Learning expectations. Unsafe behaviour may result in children being sent home.

Attendance and Illness

If your child is at all unwell, please keep them at home and advise the school office that your child will be absent.

If your child or member of your family has COVID-19 symptoms, please keep your child at home and follow Government guidance. Current guidance states that if your child shows symptoms or has a positive test, they will need to isolate for at least 10 days. If you are notified through the Trace and Track (NHS) system or a member of your household develops symptoms, they will need to isolate for 14 days. *Please inform school immediately of any of the above so that we can take the necessary action.*

If your child becomes unwell at school, we will contact you and ask you to collect them as soon as possible. Please make provision that someone is available to collect your child if necessary. *If your child shows COVID-19 symptoms, no risk will be taken and we will contact you to collect your child immediately. We will also follow DfE Guidance on how to deal with this situation. Your child will not be allowed to return to school until they have a negative test result or they have been in isolation for 10 days.*

If you have any questions, please e-mail your child's tutor or contact us via the school website.

Thank you for your understanding at this challenging time. I would like to reiterate that we are doing all that we can to minimise the risk of transmission whilst keeping our community as safe and happy as possible.

Take care and stay safe.

Debbie West

Debbie West
Headteacher