



A: Banks Road, Garston, Liverpool, L19 8JZ | **Headteacher:** Mrs L Gibson | T: 0151 427 4360
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Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Following the Prime Minister's announcement earlier this week, **school will re-open for all children on Monday 8th March 2021.**

As we return to school, we will continue to follow all government guidance and further implement the range of controls required to minimise the risk of transmission of Covid-19. You can see a full copy of our Covid-19 risk assessment on our school website, which we review regularly as guidance from the government is updated.

Whilst the government has indicated that the prevalence of Covid-19 has decreased, it is important that our whole school community continue to work together to protect each other.

As like during the autumn term, whilst in school, your child will remain in their class 'bubble'. This will help us as a school to limit the number of contacts children have with different people whilst still delivering an effective curriculum.

Each of us will have had different experiences and we ask that everyone in our school community is respectful of each other and their individual feelings. When you are dropping off or picking your child up from school, we ask that you respect each other, comply with social distancing guidance and wear a face mask at all times. We ask if it is possible that you walk your child to school to reduce congestion at the school gates.

If you do keep your child off school due to Covid-19 symptoms, please ensure that you let us know this when you register your child's absence. If your child is absent from school due to Covid-19, we will provide online home learning. Please see below for the most common symptoms of Covid-19:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child displays any of the above symptoms whilst in school, we will take your child to a safe area in school and contact you immediately to pick them up. **Please make sure that your emergency contact details are up to date and correct with the school office.**

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 or by clicking on the following link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

It is vitally important that anyone who presents with Covid-19 symptoms is tested as soon as possible.

If someone from within school is confirmed to have Covid-19, we will get in touch with the parents/carers of any children who have been in close contact with this person. This is likely to be children from their 'bubble', or if they have been in close contact through Breakfast Club. These children will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days. Other members of the household **do not** need to self-isolate, unless your child also develops symptoms. Full details and instructions will be provided at the time. We will also send information to our wider school community as a reminder to our families of what actions you can take to reduce the spread of the virus.

Essential Banks Road Information

As our school re-opens, our key priority is to ensure the safety of both our children and staff. We have worked with our school governors to ensure we are able to provide a safe space for us to work collaboratively in.

| Questions | Key Information |
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| What time will the school day start? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will operate a staggered start to the school day. The school gates will not open until 8:40am. Parents will not be allowed on the school playground. Please see below for the times that you must bring your child to school: 8.40am – 8.50am: Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) 8.50am – 9.00am: Key Stage 1 (Years 1-2) 8.50am – 9.00am: EYFS (Nursery and Reception) <p>IMPORTANT: If you have more than one child, you may bring all your children altogether at either the earlier or later time slot.</p> |
| What time will the school day end? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will be allowed on the school playground at the end of the school day. You can enter the school playground through either the Banks Road gate or the Lord Street gate. We will be reintroducing a one-way system when collecting your child/ren from school. It is crucial that you leave the school playground as soon as you have collected your child/ren in order to reduce the amount of people on the site. To exit, all parents and children must leave the playground through the car park gate. We will only be allowing one known family member to collect your child at the end of the school day. You will be expected to maintain social distancing at all times. |
| What time can I collect my child? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.05pm – EYFS (Nursery and Reception) 3.10pm – Years 1 and 2 3.15pm – Years 3 and 4 3.20pm – Years 5 and 6 |
| What if I am collecting more than one child? | <p>If you have more than one child, you may collect them altogether at the latest time at the end of the school day. Unfortunately, your child/ren will not be able to leave school before their allocated time.</p> |
| Does my child need to attend school every day? | <p>Yes. School attendance is mandatory from Monday 8th March 2021.</p> <p>This means that from this point, the usual rules regarding attendance will apply, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school; school's responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence; and, the use of the Educational Welfare Officer to support regular attendance at school. |
| Will there be a Breakfast Club? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes. Breakfast Club will be available from Monday 8th March 2021. We can only offer a very limited number of places in Breakfast Club. Places must be booked in advance via the school shop: https://shops.parentapps.co.uk/banksroad/ |

| Questions | Key Information |
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| Will there be any After-School Clubs? | Unfortunately, we are not able to offer any after-school clubs or activities until we receive further guidance from the Department for Education. |
| How do I contact the school office? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will not be any access for parents/carers to the school office. • If you would like to speak with a member of the school office, please telephone 0151 427 4360. • Alternatively, you can speak to a member of school staff at the gate when dropping off/ collecting your child from school. |
| Will lunches be provided? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Monday 8th March 2021, we will continue to provide school dinners. • Your child's school dinners must be paid for in advance using our online shop, which can be accessed via our school website: https://shops.parentapps.co.uk/banksroad/ • If your child has a packed lunch, please do not put this in a large rucksack. Instead, please use a packed lunch box/small bag which is clearly labelled with their name. |
| Can my child bring personal possessions into school? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide your child with a water bottle containing only water; juice is not allowed. • Your child's water bottle must be clearly labelled with your child's name. This will be sent home with your child at the end of each school day. This will stay on their desk to reduce movement around the classroom. • We ask that you do not allow your child to come into school with any personal belongings, other than their packed lunch box. As always, all stationary and resources your child needs for school will be provided for them; there is no need for them to bring a pencil case into school. No large rucksacks will be allowed in school. |
| Does my child have to wear school uniform? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. Your child must wear their full school uniform at all times, including black school shoes. No trainers are allowed, including black trainers. Our school uniform consists of an official school logo cardigan or sweatshirt, with grey skirt or trousers and a smart white polo shirt. • For health and safety reasons, it is vitally important that all parts of your child's uniform are clearly labelled with their name. • Your child must wear their Banks Road jogging suit, or bring their PE kit into school, when doing PE. Our PE kit consists of a plain white T-shirt (no logos other than our school badge), a pair of plain blue shorts, white socks and trainers. Children MUST have all the kit for PE. |
| Will parents be able to come into school? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfortunately, we are not able to invite parents into school. • There will be no large group or whole school gatherings. This includes assemblies. |
| What hygiene measures are in place? What are we doing to keep the school clean? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have hygiene kits in each classroom, including cleaning products and equipment. Surfaces are cleaned regularly and all equipment is cleaned in between use. • We have extra cleaners on site each day to conduct a 'midday' clean as well as cleaners in the morning and after school. • We have removed lots of the equipment and items from the rooms to ensure surfaces are easily cleaned. • Most soft furnishings have been removed from classrooms. |

| Questions | Key Information |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are expected to wash their hands multiple times throughout the day; members of staff will be available to support and supervise handwashing where it is appropriate, and we have visual reminders in all the toilets and sink areas about good handwashing. • We have plenty of tissues and remind children about good nasal hygiene. • We have supplies of hand-gel throughout the school and children are expected to use this regularly (in addition to handwashing). |
| <p>How will we make sure children are socially distant with each other?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have been organised into class 'bubbles'. • Playtimes will be staggered so that fewer children are outside the classrooms. Each group will have their own play equipment in their zone and their supervising adult will initiate games with the children. • Children will not move around the school as much as they used to. However, when they do, they will use social distancing markers that are on the floor throughout the whole site to help them. • A one-way system will continue to be in operation throughout the school, which all children and staff will be expected to adhere to. • We recognise that social distancing with the younger children is a challenge, so we will remind them regularly about it, but we cannot guarantee that it can be maintained with the younger children. The government guidance states that schools do not need to insist on social distancing with the younger children. We want our children to learn through play and interaction with others. • All children's tables in years 1 to 6 are in rows facing the front of the classroom. |

If any parents have any questions, please contact the school office and we will endeavour to answer your queries.

Thank you for your continued support and patience at this challenging time. We must remember that safety for all is our main concern. We all have a role to play to ensure that our children and school community remain safe.

We look forward to welcoming your child/ren back to school on Monday 8th March 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Gibson
Headteacher