

Belton C of E Primary School

Achieving the Best Together

Headteacher: Miss J Scott BSc (Hons) NPQH
Sadlers Wells, Belton, Leicestershire. LE12 9TS
Telephone: 01530 222304



Email: office@beltonprimary.org
Website: www.belton.leics.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

FULL RE-OPENING UPDATE

I have now begun to work carefully through the DfE guidance and I am sure you will appreciate that there is a lot of guidance to work through so that I can ensure we can bring the whole school community together again in the **safest possible way**. The DfE are clear about the measures that **must** be put in place to create safer environments and in ensuring schools are fully prepared; equipped and inducted.

The guidance states:

We are asking schools to prepare for all pupils to return full-time from the start of the autumn term, including those in school-based nurseries. Schools should not put in place rotas.

Schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. Schools should thoroughly review their health and safety risk assessments and draw up plans for the autumn term that address the risks identified using the system of controls set out below. These are an adapted form of the system of protective measures that will be 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
- How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:
 - grouping children together
 - avoiding contact between groups
 - arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
 - staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible

If anyone becomes ill:

we must minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school

Pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#), or have tested positive in the last 7 days, and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). All schools must follow this process and ensure all staff are aware of it.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

Full guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Start of term date change

As mentioned in my previous letter the term starts earlier in Leicestershire (*on 24th August with our pupils originally scheduled to attend from 25th August*), in order to support the preparation and planning of staff and buildings, the Local Authority have allowed their maintained schools to be flexible around the date on which they bring children back into school full time.

Therefore, together with our other local maintained schools, we will now be opening to all pupils for 5 days a week from **Tuesday 1st September** (changed from Tuesday 25th August), in line with the national guidance for a September return.

I have not taken this decision lightly but I want to do everything I can to make sure that our return to school in the Autumn is as safe and prepared for as it possibly can be. This will give us time to respond to any changes in guidance that happen over the summer and put those changes into place. It will give me appropriate time to train and prepare staff for the return of all children, particularly those staff who haven't been in school since wider opening. The guidance also says that we must be able to switch to remote learning at short notice. I have decided that in line with other schools if another lockdown was to happen we will heighten our approach to remote learning. I therefore need to be able to train the staff.

I hope you understand and support this decision.

Next term

Bubbles

The children will stay in their class bubbles as much as possible. Each bubble will have their own set of toilets. The children need to maintain distance where possible, ideally, adults should maintain 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. The guidance says, 'It is likely that for younger children the emphasis will be on separating groups, and for older children it will be on distancing. For children old enough, they should also be supported to maintain distance and not touch staff where possible' That is why all the other measures become increasingly important. 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. Children in Year 1 to 6 will all sit facing the front of the classroom. Staff are allowed to cross bubbles but children should not.

Attendance

The Government has said attendance will become compulsory again. I want to work with any parent who is feeling particularly anxious about next September (I know we all are but if anyone feels they need extra support **PLEASE** get in touch with me even if it is over the holidays)

On Thursday 27th August I will invite into school at 9.30am, children who are feeling particularly anxious about the return to school to have a run through of the way school will operate. I will contact parents from 24th August to arrange from a list I already have. If closer to time you feel your child is feeling anxious please contact school the school office email and leave a message office@beltonprimary.org or via weduc.

This session will last no more than an hour. A parent will be welcome to stay with them if necessary.

On Friday 28th August at 12.45pm children who **HAVE NOT** been to school since lockdown i.e. new Lions and new Sea Otters are welcome to come to school for the afternoon (**Pick up 3.10 pm**) to come and to have an afternoon in school and run through what school will be like ready for Monday 1st September. You will not need to tell us you are coming, just turn up at 12.45 pm. (**Not for new Tigers**)

Both sessions are optional.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club will run. However, we will not be able to accept walk ins. Please see the Breakfast poster for details of prices and contact the school office by email or via WEDUC by the Friday of the week before to book a place.

After school clubs

After school clubs will run with Mr Pearce (Monday) and a sports coach from Mr Vasey's team Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. However, they will run as a one 'bubble' class per evening. Details to follow next term.

Wrap around care

The guidance asks me to advise you to limit the number of different wraparound providers you access, as far as possible. Where you use childcare providers or out of school activities for your children I encourage you to seek assurance from them that the providers are carefully considering their own protective measures and they can demonstrate this. As with physical activity during the school day, contact sports should not take place (Taken directly from guidance)

New Tigers

Due to the change in the school term date, there will now only be one week of half days, starting 1st September. Mrs Peczek will be in touch to make sure you understand the details.

Behaviour

There will be an addendum for the behaviour policy in line with government guidance in September.

Staggered start and end to the day.

Please note this does not affect teaching time, which remains the same.

In line with the government guidance in order to limit the number of people on site only one parent/carer to enter school site at pick up and drop off. Younger siblings who do not attend school may accompany parent ONLY if there is no other option but to bring them with you.

The one-way system in and out of school will remain. Enter via the small gate and exit via the car park door. Signs will show you where to go. Children will line up on the playground and staff will come and collect them. There will be hand washing stations set up outside to help the children to wash their hands before coming into school.

	Tigers	Owls	Lions	Sea Otters
Arrival time	8.45am	8.45am	8.35am	8.25am
Home time	3.10pm	3.10pm	3.00pm	2.50pm

Parents to **socially distance** whilst waiting and walking out.

We ask you to arrive and leave promptly

I have also attached a permission slip for those children in year 5 and 6 to return to school if you wish them to walk home on their own.

I have also spoken with Sam from playgroup about her pick ups - please liaise with her

I understand that you may have a little wait if you have more than one child. I am sorry but staggered starts and ends of the day is a safety measure set out in the government guidance. You can either wait on the playground socially distanced, go and come back or if the child is in the appropriate year they can walk home unaccompanied. I have not chosen to do this by surname as this would impact the teaching time of the day.

If you need to talk to the class teacher this must be done via email/weduc. Please don't approach them at drop off and pick up.

Uniform

Wearing Uniform will return as normal. However, the children will require wet weather clothes- they will be going outside for PE unless the weather is really really awful so they do need to be equipped.

Rucksacks are not allowed in school- book bags and drawstring PE bags only please. They simply take up too much space and the guidance says that the children should only bring into school essential items so there is no need for such a big bag. We want book bags to be able to be kept in the children's trays. The children may bring packed lunch boxes, preferably ones that are easy to wipe down.

No pencil cases will be required; we will give the children a plastic wallet

Dinners

There will be no hot dinners, school dinners will be school packed lunches as they are currently and children will eat in their classrooms, apart from Tigers who will eat in the hall. I will review this at October half term.

Singing/music

Assemblies/ Collective worship will happen in the class bubbles.

I have cancelled Diosoing. Guidance says that singing should not occur in large groups.

I have spoken to Mrs Styles and we will review singing lessons in school at October half term.

Ukelele lessons for lions will take place virtually next term.

We are working with the guitar teacher to see if we can still have lessons in school but are currently unsure.

Group activities

Activities which require parents to come into school or a large audience e.g. special assemblies, Christmas plays etc. are highly unlikely to happen in their usual format.

PE

PE will take place outside whatever the weather (unless it is truly dreadful). The children will need their complete outdoor kit on PE days.

Swimming won't take place in the Autumn term.

Extra cleaning

Extra cleaning will take place over lunchtimes of key points e.g. toilets, door handles etc

Curriculum and Catchup

We will be working over the summer on our curriculum plan to ensure the children can catch up as quickly as possible.

I have not been given any information about how the national tutoring service or catch up programme the government has announced will work or indeed whether we will qualify- watch this space.

The government has stated that there will be further clarity and guidance coming over the next few weeks. Therefore, I will give a further update **if necessary via [Weduc](#) no later than the week beginning 17th August 2020**. This may just be to confirm all the details in this letter remain the same or to give more information if guidance has changed.

I can reassure you however, that the systems and procedures we have had in place since June 1st have worked really well and we have received very positive feedback from parents and children. I feel confident we can continue this good practice as we move to having the whole school back in September.

We all hope you all have a restful and safe summer break and look forward to welcoming our families back for the start of the academic year.

Kind Regards

Miss Scott



Year 5 and 6 children Walking Home From School

Unaccompanied

I give permission for my child

.....

to walk home from school unaccompanied for the school year 2020/2021

I have parental responsibility for the above named child

Signed

Date

Please return this form to Mrs Cobbin or to the school office.