



Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School

**Believe, Achieve, Soar with
Pride**

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Head Teacher: Mrs P Northcott
Acting Deputy Head Teacher Mr Haynes
Chair of Governors: Mr D Regan

8th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have missed your children soooooo much!

You have tried really hard to keep your family and school life balanced and we really appreciate that. We know how hard it has been, we've got staff who work full time and have had to home school too, and we feel your pain. However, we've made it.

We managed to get through to Christmas without having to close any bubbles and had only a few families who had to isolate. We really appreciate your support in helping us keeping infections really low.

With that in mind, we will be continuing with our procedures that we had before Christmas, these include:

How will school try to ensure social distancing practices are in place?

Parents are asked not to congregate at the school gate and to ensure they are following social distance guidelines during drop off and collection times. For this reason parents are not allowed onto school premises. All children will be met at the gate by Mr Hale (caretaker) and other members of staff including Mrs Gilyeat will be available to answer any general queries or pass on messages to staff.

To keep the bubbles intact we ask that children come onto the yard at the following times and line up at the appropriate place (marked on the playground). If a child is wearing a face covering to come to school this must be removed before they come onto the school grounds.

- Only one parent/carer is permitted to drop off/pick up their child.
- Year 1 and 2 will be a learning bubble and line up at 9:00am and finish at 3:05pm.
- Year 3 and 4 will be in a learning bubble and line up at 8:50am and finish at 3:10pm.
- Year 5 and 6 will be in a learning bubble and line up at 8:40am and finish at 3:15pm.

Little Learners, Nursery and Reception will be in a learning bubble and will arrive and leave through the Nursery entrance at the front of the school.

- Nursery will start school at 12:15pm and finish at 3.15pm.
- Reception will start school at 8:40am and finish at 3:00pm.

Breakfast Club will begin on Monday 8th March 2021, again this looks very different. Children will come in through the red Breakfast Club door at 8:30am and move straight to their class where they will be given breakfast and supervised by staff. Doors will be closed at 8:40am as school begins for some children at 8:40am.

Children will be in their classes (**learning bubble**) and be with the same members of staff each day.

All children must ensure social distancing when entering the school site. To help you do this, we have put the following actions in place:

- Classroom areas in use will have items that are non-essential removed to allow a larger floor space to help promote social distancing.
- Outdoor activities will be carried out on a rota basis to ensure social distancing.

What does my child have to wear or bring to school?

Children need to come to school in their school uniform.

They need a **named labelled water bottle** that we will disinfect and send home as we are not allowed to use water fountains or cups.

If your child usually brings in a packed lunch then this needs to be in a **labelled plastic lunch box** that can easily be disinfected once in school and that you can clean when they bring it home. Again, they will eat their lunch in the classroom in their 'learning bubble'.

Children should only bring in their team colour school book bag, containing their book and reading record, these will be disinfected once in school. Please do not put water bottles inside the book bags.

Parents will be notified by teachers via Class DOJO when PE days occur and children need to come to school in their school PE kits on this day (navy blue or black tracksuit bottoms or leggings can be worn on PE days). School shoes can be worn to school but they must have their plimsolls or trainers for PE.

Which toilets will my child use?

To be able to maintain robust cleaning, all children will use the individual cubicles and these will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.

What will happen at lunch time?

Lunchtimes will be staggered to ensure social distancing and all children have been allocated a specific part of the playground to play in on a rota basis.

- Reception, Year 1 and 2 will eat their lunch in the dining hall.
- Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will eat their lunch in the classroom

School lunches cost £2.10 per day (£10.50 per week) and need to be paid in advance via Parent Pay. Please contact the school office if you have any issues.

Coronavirus symptoms and testing

The school understands the NHS Test and Trace process and are aware of how to contact their local [Public Health England Health Protection team](#).

The school have advised staff and Parents/Carers that they will need to be ready and willing to;

- [Book a test](#) if they are displaying symptoms. The school are aware that all children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their Parents/Carers if using a home testing kit.
- Staff and pupils **DO NOT** come into the school if they have symptoms of COVID-19 (a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) and **WILL BE** sent home to self-isolate if they develop symptoms in school 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. They 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 10 days** from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.
- Self-isolate if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

What should I do if my child is going to be absent from school?

Please follow the usual school procedures for sickness absence, contact the school office and explain the reason for their absence. Where pupils are absent and the school do not receive a phone call from parents/carers, the school will contact them to ascertain the reasons for their absence.

What other routines will be in place to support the health and safety of my child?

- Pupils will be instructed and supervised to wash their hands regularly. Those that need support to wash their hands will be supported by a member of staff.
- Tissues are available in each classroom. Pupils will be reminded to follow the guidance 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it', and avoid touching their faces, noses etc. whilst at school. They will also be encouraged to cough and sneeze into their elbow and away from the direction of other pupils and staff.
- Staff and pupils presenting with symptoms during the school day will be isolated in the isolation room and next of kin/parents contacted so **please ensure school have updated contact details**.
- Windows and doors continue to be opened to allow natural ventilation during the school day.
- Where possible, teaching activities will be carried out in the outdoor areas of the school.
- A robust cleaning regime remains in place.

I have tried to answer as many questions as I can without this being 10 pages long and undermining your common sense but if you have any other concerns or worries please do not hesitate to contact school so we can answer them.

Kind Regards

Pauline Northcott