



5th June 2020

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

It has been fantastic to see the children back in their own schools this week and see more children accessing the provision. Everyone is also looking forward to welcoming back the year 6 children on Monday. For those of you who still have your children at home, we have provided details of the changes we have made to its learning and hope you enjoy the new aspects we are now including.

We are sending out lots of information at the moment and asking for certain year groups to complete different surveys. Please make sure you take the time to read the information so you are clear about the plans we have in place moving forward. The staff teams are working very hard to ensure all these changes are made whilst ensuring safety is kept at the heart of all our decisions.

Have a lovely weekend.

Rachel Waite
Executive Head

Welcome back after half term!

We hope all our families are keeping well. It feels like such a long time since we have seen many of you and we are excited to see those Year 6 children planning a return from Monday. I want to thank all our staff for their hard work and dedication in helping to make a safe return possible for our children and for all they have done to support our Brindishe Green community over the past 11 weeks since school closure. We have been very touched by the many, many messages of support and thanks which our families have sent us – thank you.

Over the past few weeks we have been working hard on our plans to ensure that, as more children return to school, our risk assessments include a high level of detail around cleaning and social distancing measures to make the school site as safe a place as possible for our children, staff and families. Guidance for parents and carers sent out earlier this week detailed what is in place and how you can help us with this.

Children should not come to school if they (or any member of your household) are displaying symptoms of COVID-19:

- *high temperature*
- *persistent dry cough*
- *loss of taste or smell*

You should follow government guidance on self-isolation and testing and you must let the school know as soon as possible.

You can book a test online if your child or any member of your household is displaying symptoms: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Online surveys for key year groups

We are continuing to take feedback from our school community regarding the reopening of certain year groups. This week we have taken feedback from Year 6 parents and carers and as a result we will be welcoming back some of our Year 6 children from next Monday. We are also in the process of seeking the views of our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 parents and carers. These are the priority year groups nominated by the government for a phased return to school. We will of course continue to listen to your views.

Online learning

This week we have sent out information about important changes to our online offer for children. With further opportunities for a more interactive learning experience, we believe that the children will continue to enjoy and develop their learning. We look forward to hearing your views and those of your children!

Families have been emailed a letter and a guide to the new features. Your child's personal login details will be texted to you by lunchtime on Monday 8th June. They will need these to access our online learning. Their login will take them to the existing homepage and to their new online classroom.

Please let us know if you have not received your child's personal login details by close of day on Monday: email info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk

School Dinners – Important Information

From Monday 8th June, if your child is coming to school and you are not entitled to free school meals or Universal Infant Free School Meals, you will be charged for lunches. Please ensure you make your payments through the Arbor portal.

Free School Meals (FSM)

For those entitled to Free School Meals, you will continue to receive your vouchers from Edenred, the Government provider of FSM. However, from 15th June, if your child attends school either in the provision or in one of the returning year groups, your Edenred vouchers will be cancelled as your child will be receiving a meal at school. Any siblings not returning to school will continue to receive the voucher.

Please follow the link below to make an application for Free School Meals:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/student-pupil-support/free-school-mealsand-extra-support-for-your-child>

If you need any additional support with completing the application, please email us at info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk .Given the current circumstances, even if you think you do not qualify - please try.

Should you find you are not eligible for the government scheme, but are experiencing hardship, please contact Sue Murphy in the school office on 0208 852 7245 or email info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk

Childcare for Critical Workers

If you are a critical worker and have no alternative childcare available, our provision runs from 9am – 3.15pm with paid wrap around care from 8am – 5pm run by Sportacus. Please contact info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk if you feel you need this provision.

With very best wishes,

Gerlinde Achenbach
Headteacher