



Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

From Monday 8th March, all Brindishe Green children will return to school full time and the staff are really excited to be welcoming them back. It feels like it has been a long time since all our classrooms were filled with laughter and learning but since the announcement last Monday, the staff have been busy preparing the school so that it is as safe as possible for everyone, and so that the children are as comfortable and happy as they were the last time they were in class.

We aim to fill the children with confidence so that they do not feel like that they have missed out or have fallen behind – but so that they can build on the skills and knowledge they learnt before Christmas and when they were learning at home. We believe that our children are remarkably resilient, brave and enthusiastic, and therefore they are in a great place to make huge strides in their education, friendships and confidence. For those who may be a little apprehensive about returning, we want to reassure you that we will gently support them, listen to their worries and build them up again. We know that as a school community, we achieve great things for our children when we work together and trust each other. And our children look to us all for reassurance and encouragement.

What parents/carers/after school clubs/childminders need to do to keep everyone safe?

For us to keep our year group bubbles open and the children in school we ask that you please work with us by following the following necessary guidelines:

- **All parents and carers coming through the school gate must wear a mask or visor.** If you are medically exempt from wearing a mask, we ask you to please wear a visor. Please make sure you bring one with you and wear it while waiting outside, before coming through the school gate.
- **Only one parent/carer should come on site to drop off/collect.** If your child is able to come through the gate on their own in the morning (Year 2+), they can do so. Children in Year 5 and 6 are able to walk home alone if written consent is emailed to the school office.
- Please ensure you bring and collect your child/ren from school at the **allocated time and not before**. If your children have different surnames, please come at the later time. Ensure whoever is collecting your child knows what time they should come and the expectations.

	Family surname A-G	Family surname H-P	Family surname Q-Z
Start of the day	8.45-8.55am	8.55-9.05am	9.05-9.15am
End of the day	3.00-3.10pm	3.10-3.20pm	3.20-3.30pm

- Parents/carers are asked to use the **one way system** in place (enter school though the Reception/Main gate and leave via the staff carpark onto Ardmere Cottages).
- Keep moving through the playground when you drop off or collect your child/ren. **Please do not stop to speak to members of the teaching staff or to other parents/carers.** If you have a question or message for the class teacher, please ring or email (info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) the school.
- **Children should come to school with only essential items** – waterproof/warm coat, a labelled bottle of water, their packed lunch.
- On your child's PE day, they should come to school dressed in a **suitable PE kit**.
- It is important that your child comes to school **dressed appropriately** for the day ahead as they will be using outdoor spaces in all weathers. Please ensure they have a waterproof coat and footwear. Windows in classrooms will be open so children should wear layers to keep warm.
- On the 8th March, children can bring their learning/exercise book, reading books and anything else they have borrowed from school such as a whiteboard. These will be put into a 'isolation' box and not touched for 48hours.

- If you borrowed a school laptop/Chromebook/Ipad, please **do not** return it to school on 8th March. We will send you an email/text message when they need to be returned.
- If **any member of your household** becomes unwell, **you must not send your child/ren to school**. You must take a Covid19 test. Your child/ren can return to school if you receive a negative result.
- If your child becomes unwell when they are in school, they will be asked to sit in the isolation room and you will be asked to collect them immediately. You will be asked to get your child tested for Covid19.

What are we doing in school to keep everyone safe?

- **Year groups will form bubbles where children can learn and play together in classrooms, the lunch hall and the playground.** Staff will work in only one bubble if possible. Some staff may need to cross bubbles and in this case they will wear a mask when indoors.
- **Staff will wear a mask** in all communal areas, including out in the playground at the beginning and end of the day.
- Children and staff will **wash and/or sanitise their hands** when they are moving from one space to another.
- We will continue to use a **one-way system** in school so that the children do not cross with another bubble.
- **Classroom and corridor windows and doors will be open all day** to ensure good ventilation.
- **Communal areas will be cleaned throughout the day.** This is in addition to the clean that is done at the end of the day and teaching staff cleaning desktops in the classrooms.
- If a child or member of staff tests **positive for Covid19, we will send their bubble home**, following guidance from Public Health England. You will be asked to collect your child immediately.
- Staff will test themselves twice a week using the Lateral Flow Tests.

What if you or your child tests positive for Covid19?

If your child or a member of your household (including parents and carers) becomes unwell or receives a positive COVID-19 test result, your child/ren must not come to school.

If your **child receives a positive Covid19 test**, either because they developed symptoms, or because you had them tested as a member of the household received a positive test, you will need to phone the school office immediately (Monday to Friday) or by emailing info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk (Sat/Sun). You will be asked to give the following information:

- Name of child and year group/class
- Date they were last in school
- Date they became unwell
- Date of Covid 19 test

What we will do if a member of staff or child tests positive for Covid 19?

If we receive news that a child in school or member of staff has tested positive for Covid 19 we will immediately contact Public Health England and follow their lead. **If PHE inform us that we must close a bubble, we will text the parents/carers of this bubble to tell them they must collect their child immediately.** It will be safe for all other children and staff to be in school, including siblings of the children sent home.

We will then **email parents and carers of children in the bubble with further information** including when the children will be able to return to school and what to do if their child becomes unwell.

The class teachers will upload learning the next day onto Itslearning, in the same way as they did during the national lockdown. One assignment will be set each day that should be uploaded by 3pm.

An **email will be sent to the school community** to inform them that there has been a positive case in school and that we have taken the necessary precautions.

And finally...

If you have any questions or queries during this time, please ring or email (info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) the school office and your email will be forwarded to the correct person. If you have not received a response within 48hours, please email again. Please note, that sometimes emails from school might go to your Junk Inbox.

If you have a question about accessing Rocks and Pebbles (wrap around care), please contact them directly.

We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 8th March and hope that you and your family are as excited about returning to school as we are about seeing you.

Best wishes,

The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team