

Bures Primary School – March 2021 Plan



We are really looking forward to welcoming all our pupils back again on March 8th 2021!

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to share with parents, how our school will manage the safe return of all pupils in March 2021.

Key Changes

Here is a quick summary of the major changes to our plan since September 2020. I have picked these out in red type (I would still urge you to read the full plan):

- Adults dropping off and picking up should wear face coverings
- Staff will wear face coverings in communal areas of the school
- Self-isolation has changed from 14 days to 10 days starting from the day after symptoms or a positive test
- Lateral Flow tests have been introduced for both staff and families (these are not compulsory but worth giving consideration to)
- On PE days we are asking children to wear their uniform on top and then jogging bottoms and trainers so we don't need to store PE kits in school.

Class Bubbles

Children will once again be taught in class bubbles of up to 30 pupils. Children will only mix with the children in their class bubble. We will return to our autumn term timetable for breaks, lunchtimes and PE lessons to avoid the class bubbles mixing whilst at school.

The Government recognises that unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. We will therefore continue to implement the hierarchy of measures set out in government guidance to help keep your children safe:

- avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
- frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices
- regular cleaning
- minimising contact between different class bubbles of children

While in general class bubbles will be kept apart, brief, transitory contact, such as passing in a corridor, may happen. The Government identifies that this is low risk. However, contact like this will be minimised by:

- Classes adhering to the timetabling we have organised
- Use of playground, field and hall zones with clearly defined boundaries
- Staggered arrival and departure times at the beginning and end of the school day

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Staggered Arrival and Departure Times

We continue to use three entrances at the start and end of the school day. The front gate, the back gate, and the Sunflower gate (formerly Nursery gate).

In the interests of infection control we would continue to request that only ONE parent/carer should accompany their child to school, if required. **All adults should wear a face covering when picking up or dropping off children.** Regrettably parents will STILL NOT be able to come onto the school site, unless in a rare emergency or for a planned one-to-one, socially distanced meeting. Children will be greeted at the school gate by staff and will then go directly to their classrooms.

If you are waiting with or for your child, please wait in a socially distanced manner. It will be extremely important for all families to abide by social distancing guidance and remain at least 2m away from other families, even if your children are in the same class in school. It will be really important that all parents are able to trust that all other parents will stick to the guidelines. We will not have enough staff to supervise outside the school perimeter.

	Reception	Year One and Two	Year Three and Four Year Five and Six
Drop Off	8.40 am	8.30 am	8.40 am
Where?	Sunflower Gate	Front or Back gate	Front or Back gate
Pick Up Front or back gate	3.05 pm – Children without siblings in school (Other than Y6 pupils)		
	3.15 pm – Children with siblings in school / All Y6 pupils		

If you have children who need dropping off and picking up at different times, please choose the **earlier time to drop them off**. E.g. If you have a child in Reception and Year 1 please drop them both off at 8.30 am.

Though there will be a **5 or 10 minute** ‘window’ for dropping or collecting children. Being prompt is going to be extremely important. More so now than previously, as we have 200 children to get in every day!

Thank you we really appreciate your support – we know you will all want to help us to meet these expectations.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will resume from 8th March. The children will access Breakfast Club in class bubbles or family bubbles. Places can be booked on School Gateway in the usual manner.

Attendance Expectations

From March, the usual rules for school attendance will once again apply, including:

- Parents duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where they are of compulsory school age;
- school’s responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence and lateness

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- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with the local authority code of conduct.

If you have concerns about your child returning to school as they have been shielding, please contact us directly to discuss the situation.

Keeping our School Covid-19 Free

School responsibilities:

- All staff will follow government guidelines both in and out of school as closely as possible to avoid putting anyone at risk.
- We will be implementing strict cleaning procedures in line with government guidance for cleaning non-healthcare environments.
- We will make use of resources that we are able to clean regularly and will remove items which we are unable to keep clean such as playdoh, dressing up clothes, cushions and soft toys. We cannot guarantee that your child will not touch anything another child has touched but we will ensure the equipment will only be used by one class.
- **Staff will continue to access twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests to help identify asymptomatic cases and thus slow the rate of transmission**
- **Staff will wear face coverings in communal areas of the school**
- **Staff will be asked not to come into the school if:**
 - they have one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
 - a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
 - they are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area
 - they have had a positive test
- In the event of your child becoming unwell at school, with Covid-19 symptoms, we will call you and they will be taken to a medical room. They will wait there until they can be collected. They will need collecting as quickly as possible. The supervising adult is required to wear suitable PPE.
- **If a child or staff member in school tests positive for Covid-19, we will immediately contact Public Health England and Suffolk Local Authority who will help us to determine who else may have been in close contact and therefore may need to isolate at home for 10 days. If this happens for your child, other members of your household do not need to self-isolate unless your own child, subsequently develops symptoms and then your own whole household would need to start a period of 10-day self-isolation.**
- We will actively engage with the national test and trace programme.
- Teachers will be reminding the children of our routines for disposing of waste and avoiding contact with other people wherever possible. There will be lots of teaching and reminders about good hygiene – promoting ‘Catch it. Bin it. Kill it.’ Teachers will also supervise regular handwashing to ensure children are doing this thoroughly at all times.
- The class bubble approach will also help us to prevent the spread of infection.

Parent / Pupil Responsibilities:

- Follow government guidelines both in and out of school as closely as possible to avoid putting anyone at risk. (We would ask that you think especially carefully about this if considering visiting the park at the end of the day).
- Consider accessing the twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests for all eligible family members.
- Parents should keep children who have symptoms compatible with Covid -19 at home and get them tested. If a case is confirmed they should inform us immediately and keep their child at home for 10 days from the day after the start of their symptoms or the day after the positive test was confirmed. Siblings must also stay at home and self-isolate for the same 10 days even if they do not exhibit symptoms.
- If your child is sent home from school with symptoms, we will advise you that your child should access a test and self-isolate as above.
- If your child tests negative, they can return to their setting and your household can end their self-isolation
- If a member of your family has Covid-19 symptoms, please do not send your child to school, your whole family must self-isolate for 10 days from the day following the start of symptoms or the day following the date of the positive test. Again, the family member with symptoms could take a test and, if negative, self-isolation would not need to continue for any members of the family.
- Children should wear school uniform as normal including black school shoes rather than trainers. However, on PE days we would like children to wear their school polo T-shirt and sweatshirt on top but wear jogging bottoms and trainers on the bottom so that we don't need to store PE kits in school.
- On cooler days, children may need to wear extra layers as we will be working with windows and doors open to allow good ventilation as per government guidance
- Children should not bring anything to school with them other than their lunch box (if they are not having a school lunch), a water bottle, their book bag. Back packs, rucksacks, toys, pencil cases all need to stay at home please. Older children who may be walking to or from school independently are welcome to bring a mobile phone with them but these must be left in the School office during the day.
- Our Catering team will provide hot meals or packed lunches for any children who would like them. These will be free for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as well as for children in Y3, 4, 5 and 6 who are eligible for free school meals. Parents should book lunches on the School Gateway in the usual manner.
- Talk to your children about the fact that school will look much like it did in September and though it is great to be back together again we will still be following our Coronavirus Code. Reassure them that they will be safe and looked after and that everyone will be pleased to see them again. Discuss the fact that they may want to hug their friends or the school staff but that this is still not allowed at the present time.

First Aid

Trips, fall, bumps and other illnesses will happen. If a child cuts themselves or has an injury, we will continue to be kind, compassionate and nurturing towards the children. If social distancing is not possible the adult will take the precautions of:

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- Wearing disposable gloves & a mask. If possible, we will ask pupils, especially if older, to clean and dress their own wounds (put on a plaster).

Corona Code

We will be asking your children to follow our 'Corona Code' while they are in school with us. It would be helpful if you can talk him or her through these simple 'rules' before they arrive.

- We do our best to stay away from each other without touching – even at playtime!
- We will remember to 'Catch it' 'Bin it' and 'Kill it' when we sneeze or cough.
- We will try not to touch our faces but will wash our hands when we do.
- If we feel poorly or hot, we will tell an adult so they can look after us.
- We will play where we are asked to play and stay with our class at all times
- We will wash our hands really well for at least 20 seconds (2 x "Happy Birthday").
- We will remember to leave other children's belongings alone so we don't spread germs
- We will treat each other kindly as we always do!

Thank you for carefully reading the details above. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back into school on March 8th.

Best wishes
Ms Slater