



**County Bridge Primary School**  
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Headteacher: Mrs R Patel



Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all keeping safe and well and taking advantage of the lovely weather we have had in the school holidays. With holidays coming to an end soon, this letter will provide you with a short update and signpost you and your child/children to some useful information to help with the FULL return to school in September. I have missed you all and cannot wait to see you all again.

From Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September all schools will be open in FULL to ALL children in every year group. At County Bridge, this means the school is open for every child from First Steps Nursery to Year 6. This is great news as we are looking forward to welcoming all of our children and families back to school after such a lengthy absence period. For some of our children it will have been almost 6 months since they stepped into their school.

Attached with this letter are three further documents written by Walsall Education Psychology Team to support children and parents with the return to school:

*Going Back to School After Covid (advice for children)*

*Going Back to School After Covid (advice for parent)*

*Understanding and responding to your child's behaviour (advice for parent)*

There are some really useful tips and advice on what you and your child/children can do to help with the return to school after a lengthy absence. Please do read and share these with your child/children.

I know our parents will be anxious to know about the arrangements for the new term. The safety of our children, staff and parents is our very top priority and in particular, the wellbeing of every child and supporting them into a full time education will be our very first task.

The staff have been working incredibly hard on a robust strategy for the full opening. In line with the government guidance documents for schools, below are all the measures that we will be having in place in September.

- Children WILL need to be wearing their usual clean school uniform every day.
- Classes will be in a 'Bubble' and the children will remain, as much as possible, with the same group of children and staff. 'Bubbles' across the school will not be able to meet or mix together.
- Start and end times will be staggered for different classes to limit congestion.
- The children will be dropped off/collected at the main school gate by their parent. Only one parent will be allowed to bring their child/children to school to ease the congestion and minimise the spread of infection.
- Where a parent has multiple children in different year groups, ALL the children will be dropped off at the earlier time and collected at the later time. For example, a family with children in Year 2 and Year 6 will drop off their children at 8:30am and collect at 3:20pm. This is to avoid parent/children waiting for prolonged times at the school gate. Once the children are collected, parents are to leave the area quickly and avoid the temptation of



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chatting to other parents as this will cause a congestion.

- Teachers will meet parents at the start and end times so parents/children **MUST** be on time please. Below are the staggered start/end times for the different 'Bubbles':

BUBBLE	START - Drop Off Time	END - Collect time
First Steps	12:15pm	3:15pm
Nursery	8:30am	11:30am
Reception	8:45am	2:55pm
Years 1/2	8:50am	3:00pm
Years 3/4	8:40am	3:10pm
Years 5/6	8:30am	3:20pm

- Children (Reception to Year 6) will need to bring a **healthy snack** for break time, such as a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. They will also need to bring a bottle of **water**, daily. Toasts and juice will not be available for purchase.
- As usual, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be provided with a free school meal.
- Children in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6, who are not entitled to a free school meal, will be allowed to bring a **healthy packed lunch** from home. Parents will continue to have the option to pay for a school lunch for their child/children if they are not entitled to a free school meal. Money will need to be sent in an envelope, for the whole week, with the child's name on the front and then handed to the teacher by the child.
- Every adult and child will have temperature checks undertaken in school and they will be asked to wash their hands frequently throughout the day. All visitors to the school will also follow these guidelines.
- Seating in classrooms will be altered so children will not be facing one another.
- Every child will have their own writing resources provided by the school and these will not be shared with any other child. Please provide your child with their personal supply of tissues. Children must not bring resources, such as bags, pencil cases, etc., from home.
- Ensure children have layers of clothing on to keep warm as windows will remain open throughout the day for increased ventilation.
- All soft furnishings and toys, which are difficult to clean (including soft toys), will be removed from the classroom.
- Break times will be staggered so a maximum of two 'Bubbles' will be outside at any one time. At lunch time, the playground will be segregated so 'Bubbles' do not mix together.
- Each 'Bubble' will have their own games equipment for break and lunch times.
- Lunch times will be staggered and some children in Years 1 to 6 may have their lunch in their classrooms.
- There will be no more than one 'Bubble' in school clubs and assemblies.
- Extra cleaning of toilets, doors, door handles, tables, etc. will be undertaken throughout the day.
- Parents will need to call the office if their child is absent from school.
- Parents will need to call school immediately if their child is presenting with Coronavirus symptoms. Coronavirus symptoms (as listed in the government guidance) are
  - \*A high temperature
  - \*A new, continuous cough
  - \*A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste
- If a child presents with any of the coronavirus symptoms (listed above) while they are in school then a phone call will be made home urgently and a parent will be asked to come and collect the child immediately. The parents will be asked to get the child tested.

- ALL the children and staff in the infected child's 'Bubble' will also be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.
- If the child with symptoms tests negative then they will be able to return to school and all staff and children members of the 'Bubble' will end self-isolation and also return to school.
- If the child tests positive, they will continue to self-isolate and all staff and children members in the 'Bubble' will also continue to self-isolate for 14 days. If anyone else develop symptoms then they too will also need to be tested.
- Parents MUST notify the school of an outcome of a child's test as soon as possible so school take the appropriate action.

I am aware there are so many rules for us all to adhere to during these tough times but we must follow these strictly for everyone's protection.

I know how lucky we are to have such a wonderful school community - we always pull together as a united team, especially in difficult and challenging times. I am certain that with school and home working well together, we can make sure all our children can return safely to carry on with their education and all children, staff and parents can continue to remain safe and well.

Please do not hesitate to email me ([postbox@countybridge.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@countybridge.walsall.sch.uk)) or give me a call if you have any questions, worries or concerns. I will be happy to help in any way I can.

Enjoy the last couple of weeks of the summer holiday. My whole staff team and I look forward to welcoming you all back and bringing the school community together again.

Yours sincerely

Mrs R Patel  
Headteacher



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