



Jennett's Park CE Primary School

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Re Plans for September

Dear Parents & Carers,

(Children your letter is coming next week)

No newsletter this week. Instead a long letter. Get the kettle on. We wanted to explain three things for September:

1. [Our plan to get pupils back](#)
2. [Our initial draft on the recovery curriculum](#)
3. [What we'll do as a contingency if we have to shut again.](#)

The risk assessment is still not finalised as elements are still with unions and other relevant bodies but we wanted you to know as much as possible now.

I must start by saying welcome to our new joiners to Jennett's Park by the way . Not every year is like this! You are joining a very strong and vibrant community. I will try to avoid jargon for everyone's sake but cannot promise I won't mention Rainbows or an attempt at a silly joke or two.

The government outlined details last week on what we should aim to do:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Guidance for autumn term reopening

- Mandatory attendance from September
- Class pods or Yeargroup pods
- Staggered start, break, lunch & finish times
- Enhanced cleaning routines
- Front-facing desks
- No whole school worship or singing
- No contact sport
- Resumption of school curriculum

-Department for Education



We asked you as parents ten questions for priorities as a family. We know as a school that children's learning has been variable during closure. Some children will have excelled and some will have had gaps created. In these questions there was no right or wrong answer. Each family is different and each situation more so.

There were 240 responses and these are ranked in highest to lowest importance

1. **That the school prioritises your child's mental health** 8.7
2. **That the school prioritises catching up with the curriculum** 8.3
3. **That the school prioritises the new teachers getting to know new classes** 7.9
4. **That the school prioritises getting back to normality** 7.7
5. **That the school prioritises children being in full time** 7.6
6. **That the school prioritises socialising with friends** 7.5
7. **That the school prioritises online work for possible closure** 6.9
8. **That the school prioritises planning for future possible closure** 6.8
9. **That the school prioritises meeting with parents** 5.9
10. **That the school prioritises clubs for learning after school** 5.2

From looking at results across the school there are people who ranked all ten of equal importance and some who had strong opinions on one or the other. This was not dependent on age phase e.g. not all who had younger children wanted a focus on returning to normality nor the older years focussing on well-being. Every year group had people with all aspects. We will therefore try to do all ten just can't do ALL at once. We've spent the last week ticking a lot off and are confident we can do all just not immediately.

Our plan for September

Health and safety:

Safety is paramount. Both physical and emotional. We are so excited as a school to welcome you back but know the many of you have been shielding for over 100 days now are full of mixed emotions. Please know we understand and will listen to your concerns. We will carry on with most or all of the measures we already implemented to reduce risks of spread. Once the risk assessment is completed this will be shared to you. Every child or staff member requiring bespoke health plans will have one provided.

Each child and staff member will have their temperature taken on entry to the school. If it is outside of normal range your child will not be admitted that day. Whilst Covid seems not to present as a high temperature in children in the early stages, many other childhood diseases do. We would rather not cope with a breakout of chicken pox at this stage! 2 people will scan to speed up entry.

Any child who is sick will be brought to a bay in the library and looked after. Staff will wear full PPE to do this including aprons, face masks, gloves and shields.

You will be contacted and expected to collect your child and arrange testing through government channels. We will call all listed adults until contact is made – please ensure your phone number is up to date and available.

Timings:

Every child will be invited in. Full time. We are lucky that as an academy we already had a very long day. We were asked to consider how to avoid crowds and so we have shortened timings ever so slightly to help ease this.

Children can be dropped to the earliest time for a family to stop you looping our building indefinitely! Similarly teachers will have children ready for a 3:00 collection from doors if you wish to collect all your household at once. We expect all children in year 5 & 6 to be able to walk home or to get to an agreed location unless you indicate differently on our walking home letters which are sent at the start of the year.



Start of the day

8:45 Year 5/6 & YN
 8:50 Y3/4
 9:00 KS1& Year R

End of day

3:00 Year R & KS1
 3:10 Year 3/4 / 5 / 6
 3:30 YN

Entry points remain to ensure we are not overcrowded inside the building. These are similar to what is currently in place and will be from September:

Year 3-4 via main entrance
EYFS – nursery gate
Year 1-2 via Rainbow entrance
Year 5-6 End of building.

Onsite:

We will still maintain a 1 way system. Entry will be via the main gate and out via the carpark.

You must very quickly drop off.

I hope that for the safety of all that parents / carers or those members of extended family will abide by our rules. Entry to the site is granted by permission of the school; if individuals cannot abide by the rules, they will be not allowed to enter for a set timeframe for the safety of all.

Parents/ Carers will not be allowed into the building for any reason aside from pre-arranged appointments. The main office is open but they or other staff may not have capacity to see you straight away so we recommend if you need to speak to a member of staff please phone the office or email secretary@jennettspark.bracknell-forest.sch.uk.

Staffing

We won't be mixing in the day and we've planned that each phase has a core group of staff to look after them and their needs. We are confident we can support each child's core needs and if they are on an EHCP that we meet to the spending given. If your child has SEN please make an appointment to see the SENDco's if you have questions. We are hopeful that with this core group of staff we will reduce not only cross contamination but the chance to close the school if we have an outbreak. ***We still await guidance*** on what to do if we reach a certain level of staff sickness but are hopeful that any impact in extreme cases of absence wouldn't fully close us. Details are below on that contingency plan.

Pupils will not mix across classes but have the chance to be in smaller groups throughout the day where possible. We are told we can accommodate 30 children safely and never expand past this number at Jennett's Park. Nevertheless smaller groups are still our preference. Each phase has a larger space to use- EYFS now has a very large extension planned adding over 50sq metres of space. Year 1 will have the music room, Year 2 the ICT suite, KS2 will have half the hall each in two very large unconnected bays. Our dance and sensory room will be timetabled so used but on a weekly basis. We are very lucky to have 4 other rooms we can use as well. Many schools are not so lucky.

We plan to have normal staggered entry to school for EYFS. This is always beneficial and gets children to understand how being at home is different from school in rules and routines. Miss Allen will communicate these via Tapestry to our new joiners.

Breakfast and after school clubs.

Our trustees are reviewing risk and will inform you next Thursday as to whether all conditions have been met so that these can resume onsite.



Initial draft of our recovery curriculum:

Children at Jennett’s Park will get a full entitlement to a broad curriculum. We have looked at Education Endowment Fund evidence on what we could do, looked at examples from across England and international studies, read the Department for Education guidance and Health and safety executive updates for best practice. This is an excerpt from the rationale to our approach. The full document is attached.

“We have been thinking about what a curriculum might look like for children in this next phase of school. As school life returns to a ‘new normal’ in September, we will begin the year implementing a “recovery curriculum” which acknowledges that there have been big losses to children as they have stayed at home and that these losses can contribute to pupil’s mental health with anxiety, trauma and bereavement playing a large role. Children will perhaps have experienced these all at once and in a sudden and unplanned fashion leaving them vulnerable.

Focusing purely on the recovery of lost learning time does not recognise the extent of impact of the pandemic. We have the opportunity to choose our approach as our Jennett’s Park family return in full. We can choose to focus on our children’s fundamental wellbeing, positive personal development and mental health as we all recover. Happy and calm children learn best, compassionate teaching and leadership is now crucial.”

Adrenalin and anxiety block the ability to remember and thus to learn. We know we can close the gaps very quickly if we approach it this way.

We are approaching our curriculum on a 1, 3, 6 week review approach. The first week approach is outlined below. We will share with you our goals at every 1/3/6 milestone. At the start of any year it is important to invest in routines, relationships and communication. As some of our young learners have been away for 6 months by September this is even more invaluable.



We will use time in becoming a cohesive class unit again- hence our decision to not swap many children and remain as the cohorts who left in March. Some children will have regressed in basic "emotional regulation" such



as knowing how to ask for help, calm down and express when they are angry and confused. Some haven't been around lots of other children. They have been around family and boundaries at home are understandably different from what we expect in school. Collaboration, getting on with each other, taking turns to speak, rule-following and behaviour will all need to be reviewed.

We already have a very clear behaviour policy that stems from The Rainbow Promise but leads to our Code of Conduct:

1. *We are quiet when others are talking*
2. *We follow directions right away*
3. *We let others get on with their work*
4. *We respect each other*

We added these three new rules:

5. *We are in this together.*
6. *We are all learning how to do this together.*
7. *We need to follow the rules given in school to keep everyone safe.*

We understand this is stressful. Children who cannot follow the rules will be given help at a safe distance to understand but ultimately if they cannot do this they may be asked to not attend. This is a school-wide decision and ultimately made by me as Headteacher. Safety both emotionally and physically has to be upheld for all children and staff.

Our contingency Lockdown plan:

This is attached. We've looked at the 6 aspects we need to put in place for you if we ever have to lockdown again. We do not wish to enter a situation of Lockdown, but we must be prepared to do so smoothly if we do. Our approach was widely approved of by you as parents and by external agencies but we would be naïve to think it couldn't get even better. We may have partial lockdowns that are year group and phase specific not involving the whole school or whole school wide as in Leicestershire.

Please contact the school for a Seesaw (year 2-6) or Tapestry (Year N- Year 1) account in preparation for this. All homework in the new year will be set through these in preparation to help reduce technical issues! We will offer online workshops. If, heaven forbid we lockdown in the first two weeks, we are ready for this too.

What we need to do

- Finish the risk assessment and share it to you.
- Finish planning for the first week back!
- Finish any outstanding calls to new classes
- Upload work to Tapestry and Seesaw just in case
- Tidy- it's a bit of a mess from all the changes
- Set up our new classes
- Organise when and how we will have an additional meet the parents/ consultation evening on top of our normal October settling in
- Organise how we spend our share of the £1billion pounds promised to us
- Say adieu to those who leave us.

What you need to do before September.

- Watch our videos on re-entry – the one way system will still be in place.
- Have clean uniform ready – should be washed and cleaned daily



- Read social stories on returning to school
- Watch Craig Tribe's video's on returning to school- these will be uploaded next week
- Watch out for our letter to children next week
- If you are a key worker please send in confirmation of your status if you haven't already done so, so booking is seamless.
- Contact us if you think your child will need a health care plan before starting or if there are any other issues we must know!
- Let us know if you or anyone you know are in need of Food bank vouchers.
- Email the office for Marvellous Me, sQuid, Seesaw and Tapestry accounts if you've not done so.
- Have a rest.

I'm always saying thank you these days. Thank you to the marvellous staff across our school and in our trust who've helped look after what has been the strangest time in anyone's lives. Thanks to the governors who give so freely of their time and strength to help make our vision come true. Thank you to a Church who has supported us so lovingly and compassionately showing us the path we should tread using the values we hold dear. Thanks to you as parents and carers and extended families who over a hundred days ago had their lives turned upside down and rose to the challenge of (in many cases) doing three jobs- parent, worker and teacher. Thank you to the brilliant children who are so resilient and shine so brightly. So well done Jennett's Park, thank you, you are so strong and you make us proud to serve you.

We want to serve the common good in our community so that children can live life in all its fullness. We are fully aware there are lifelong implications for the lost learning and emotional impact for this crisis if we get our approach wrong. Please give us your trust in helping us close the gaps and so all might flourish in their own way. Let us know if you think we should consider adjustment or have heard of exciting new innovations, we do listen. Communication goes both ways.

Stay strong and stay safe you marvellous, inspiring community of people and know that like the Phoenix we will rise.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Savage
Headteacher

