

Bellfield Primary School



3rd November 2020

Friday Afternoon Closure

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another exciting half term – this is the half term where we get to hang decorations, put up sparkly trees and enjoy lots of Christmas cheer! Although this year will be slightly different, we will still ensure that the children experience the full joy of the Christmas season. We were delighted to welcome back so many children, especially in these uncertain and difficult times. It was lovely to welcome the children back to school yesterday morning and to see them all with smiling faces, full of determination once again.

Friday afternoon Closure

As you are aware, yesterday our Trust, (HCAT) issued a letter to all of its school to inform us that we will be closing on a Friday afternoon for the rest of this term.

The priority at the moment is to keep schools open so that children's education is not disrupted any further and as you know, safety is our top priority.

As a community, we are clearly facing a difficult time ahead and therefore face the second lockdown from Thursday; with the difference being that schools will remain open. With regards to the letter sent by the trust yesterday, the decision to close school on a Friday afternoon has been taken to ensure that we can remain open by keeping staffing levels high, whilst maintaining quality education for all the children. We do hope that you understand and support this decision.

“During this difficult period, across the trust we are experiencing unprecedented numbers of staff unavailable for work. In order to maintain the highest possible quality of education and to minimise the risk to pupils and staff, from week commencing Monday 9th

*November HCAT primary schools will close to pupils on a **Friday afternoon.**”*

We appreciate that there may have been some confusion with reports in our local paper that schools will be closing for good from next week, this is **NOT** the case. We will close on a **Friday afternoon** to allow for our school to continue to operate to full capacity and provide a safe and high quality learning environment for all pupils.

Timings

Please see the table below with the timings and exits for year groups. We understand that some parents may have children in different year groups, unfortunately we are unable to change these timings as all children still need to have their lunch before school closes. Lunchtime timings will remain the same. EYFS/Year 1 and 2 have lunch at 11.30am and KS2 (Years 3-6) have lunch at 12 noon.

Children who **only** attend our **MORNING** nursery will be collected at **11.30am** as normal.

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Year group	Time to be collected	Where do I collect my child?
Nursery	12.50pm	The side gate – this is the gate that is situated at the side of the school field. The staff will be there.
Reception	12.50pm	The side gate – this is the gate that is situated at the side of the school field. The staff will be there.
Year 1 and 2	1pm	The main school gate – this will be the same procedure as we do each night. Year 2 will line up against the wall and parents will be asked to wait on the main playground. Year 1 pupils will wait behind the fence and be dismissed to you by the class teacher
Year 3 and 4	1pm	The side gate – the same procedure will be used as we do each night – Year 4 parents will be asked to walk onto the playground and wait for the children to be brought to them.
Year 5 and 6	1pm	The car park gate
Rainbow Room	1pm	Main school gate – children to be collected from the Rainbow room

Please note that the school site will be closed to parents from 1.10pm on a Friday afternoon. The school office will still be open to receive phone calls, if you have any queries.

Thank you for your understanding

Mr Batty and Miss Howard