

Bellfield Primary School

9th November 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the first full week of lockdown 2, we would like to remind you all of some important information. We understand how anxious people are, the staff are also feeling this anxiety with their own families. This is an important time for us to pull together as a community and support each other in keeping safe. As you are all aware, we will be closing on a Friday afternoon, from this Friday, in a bid to help schools remain open as we prepare for a second wave. Our aim is always to provide the best quality education for all pupils and in order for this to happen we need a full staff team. The children's education, safety and mental well-being is at the heart of everything we do and we appreciate your amazing support with the Friday afternoon school closure.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, this Christmas season is going to be different. Here are a few dates that you will need to know about.

Date	Event
7th December	Class Christmas crafts will go on sale – all children will be making at least one decoration for you to purchase. All monies will go towards the school fund and be used towards improvements around the school.
14th December	EYFS will be recording a short nativity for you to enjoy. This will be posted on your Seesaw accounts – we were very saddened to think the children would not be able to do their annual Christmas Concert for you, so this is the best alternative. We get to dust off the tea towels and angel costumes!
17th December	Christmas Party day – children will be able to come dressed in party clothes for the day. The classes will be having a party, in their bubbles and enjoying lots of fun Christmas activities.
17th December	Christmas dinner day – all children welcome to stay and enjoy the school Christmas dinner. Staff will also enjoy eating their Christmas dinner with their class bubble. A reservation letter will come out at the beginning of December to book your lunch.
18th December	Final day and Christmas Jumper/Elf outfit day. We are asking that pupils come in their Christmas jumpers or dressed as an elf!! We will all have a FUN last day with lots of Christmas cheer.

Safety measures

As we enter this second lockdown, please be assured that all safety measures are still in place. Safety is at the top of our priorities for the whole community. We ask that you continue to help by social distancing when you are on the school site.

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- 1) Bubbles are in place and children do not mix with other bubbles
- 2) Children have a staggered entrance to school and different entrances and exits are used
- 3) Children eat lunch with their bubble and other bubbles in the hall are over 2 metres apart
- 4) Children have a designated area on the playground and bubbles do not mix
- 5) All areas in the school are well ventilated to provide fresh air flow – therefore it is vital that children are coming to school in their jumpers/cardigans and any girls wearing skirts need to now have tights on as it is starting to get colder
- 6) Cleaning has increased – staff are cleaning classroom tables between the morning and afternoon sessions. Any shared learning spaces are cleaned between groups
- 7) Children and staff sanitise/clean hands on a regular basis – hand sanitiser is available at the door for ALL classes and shared areas
- 8) Parents are asked to ring the school office to reduce the number of people on site
- 9) Regular outside agencies working with children follow the school risk assessment, as well as having their own procedures in place. All outside agencies working on site are known to the school and have been working with us to follow safety procedures
- 10) Contractors on site are supervised by our Site Manager and are given strict safety measures to follow

Reminder of Covid procedure

It is vital that we work as a community to help keep everyone as safe as possible. Therefore, we would like to remind you how to help us keep our school community safe.

- 1) If anyone in your household has symptoms your child **MUST NOT** attend school – until a negative test is confirmed
- 2) If anyone in your household is waiting for a test your child **MUST NOT** attend school – until a negative test is confirmed
- 3) If you have been contacted by track and trace and told to isolate your family your child **MUST NOT** attend school
- 4) If you are isolating, due to track and trace or a member of the household having a positive test, you must isolate. If during this isolation period, your child or another member of the family develop symptoms you must isolate for a further 14 days from the onset of the symptoms. Your child **MUST NOT** attend school.

If you are in any doubt, please contact the school office who will be happy to help. **DO NOT** send your child if you are in any doubt, ask the school first. You can always bring your child later in the day if we advise that this is possible.

We understand this is a challenging time but please be assured that if we have any confirmed cases, you will be informed. We understand that sometimes things are posted on social media and this is not always accurate information. We will always inform you of any cases and what your child/ren need to do in order to keep safe.



Home learning

If your child has to stay at home for any reason, Covid-19 or non-covid related illnesses, then the class teacher will provide work for your child on Seesaw.

The government have issued guidance to schools in ensure that we are continuing to provide high quality learning for pupils who have to isolate and that this learning should, where possible, be online. As a school we have used Seesaw as our online learning platform since the first lockdown, with great success. We were amazed with the quality of work completed during lockdown and we know that you will continue to support your child with their learning, if needed.

Work will be set on your child's Seesaw account and be acknowledged by their teacher. Please note that this will be at some point during the day as staff are still in school teaching classes and therefore work may not be acknowledged until after the school day. Pupils will be given feedback and ways forward where needed. Please encourage your child to complete all work, they are not on holiday if they are isolating and need to try to continue with their education. We have seen that some children who have been off school, and not completed work, have struggled on their return to know what is happening in their class bubble. If you need any further guidance or support with work that is set, please contact the class teacher as normal.

Although Seesaw is a great way to communicate freely with your child's class teacher, please be mindful that staff have families too and contacting them over the weekend is not always appropriate. Staff need time to spend with their families and they are under an enormous amount of stress working in school to keep children safe and ensure the highest quality of education continues. Please consider if your question could be asked on a Monday morning instead. We want to keep communication lines open, especially as we enter this next lockdown, but staff are in need of some 'switch off' time when they are at home. Thank you.

Friday afternoon Closure reminder

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

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 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.



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 children who are staying on site need to have time to eat their lunch. If you are taking your child home for lunch, please note the following times for pick up:

Year group	Time
Nursery/Reception/Year 1 and Year 2	11.30am
Year 3/4/5/6	12pm
Rainbow Room	12pm

If your child is in Nursery and they usually stay for lunch, but you now wish to take them home for their dinner, please contact the school office for information regarding the arrangements for any payments you have already made.

If your child is staying at school for their lunch, please see the table below for timings and pick up points.

Year group	Time to be collected	Where do I collect my child?
Nursery	12.50pm	Side gate
Reception	12.50pm	Side gate
Year 1 and 2	1pm	Main school gate – same procedure as a night time pick up
Year 3 and 4	1pm	Side gate – same procedure as a night time pick up
Year 5 and 6	1pm	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.

Safeguarding

We are sorry to mention this again, but we are still having difficulties with children on scooters. We have had several concerned parents providing information that some of our older children are riding their scooters on the road. One parent informed us that she witnessed a pupil ride their scooter on the road in front of a moving vehicle. This clearly shocked her and she was very concerned for the safety of the pupil.

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We are asking that you talk to your child again about the importance of road safety and the appropriate way to ride their scooter to school. We would hate for any pupil to have an accident when travelling to/from school on their scooter or bike.

Dark morning and dark nights – as the season changes from Autumn into Winter, please be aware of the darker mornings and night times. Children need to be kept safe. If your child comes and leaves school alone, please ensure they have some form of reflective wear so that they can be clearly seen.

Sporting achievements

You will have seen on our Twitter feed the amazing sporting achievements of our pupils in the virtual competitions. As a school, we are still keen to keep up our sporting opportunities, now more than ever it is important that pupils have the chance to take part in physical exercise.

We are over the moon with our Rainbow Room children who won the KS2 Hull Active Schools Rainbow Boccia competition. Our KS2 children took part in the Hull Active Schools Cross-Country Competition. Well done to all the children who won awards throughout KS2, we are very proud and Mrs. Cowap was ecstatic!

Our Year 6 children have recently taken part in 'Race for Life.' They were raising money for this vital charity and for their new school leaver hoodies. The children outdid themselves and a special mention to Amy's family who helped to raise almost £1,000. All the children did well and we were very proud of our Year 6 bubble.

In the first half term KS2 pupils participated in the Hull Active Schools London Marathon! They completed 26 miles by doing their daily mile, WOW, what an achievement!

Please continue to be safe and look out for the whole community

Mr Batty and Miss Howard