

Browick Road Primary and Nursery School

	 <p>Achieving Success Together</p>	
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30.08.21

RE: Arrangements for the full return to school – September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a safe and happy summer holiday.

I am writing to inform you of the steps Browick Road Primary and Nursery School will be taking to fully reopen to all pupils on September 6th 2021 and share what you need to know to help your child prepare for their return to school.

Whilst the Government has indicated that cases of Covid-19 are still dropping, schools have been advised to keep many of the safety measures in place to ensure that there is not a sudden peak in cases when the children return to school in September.

Should you have any queries or concerns after reading the information in this letter, please contact the school office via telephone **01953 603061** or via email at office@browickroad.norfolk.sch.uk to discuss these from 2nd September 2021.

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When the school will reopen

All children in Year 1 – Year 6 will return to school on **Monday 6th September 2021**. Children in the Nursery and Reception classes already have their arrangements for their start.

Attendance

Attendance for all pupils continues to be mandatory. I have attached a letter from Norfolk County Council regarding the new guidance around children self-isolating due to being in close contact with a covid-positive person. In summary though, children will not need to self-isolate unless there are 5+ cases in a school and will not need to self-isolate if a family member has Covid-19. It is of course, possible that this guidance will change. If you are in any doubt about whether to keep your child at home, please contact the school office and we will advise you based on the most up to date guidance.

Children should not attend school if they have any Covid-19 symptoms. The Department for Education has stipulated that these children will continue to be remotely educated. If this circumstance arises, your child will be able to access remote learning via Tapestry or Teams, as during the previous lockdowns.

Getting to and from school

The school will no longer be using staggered starting and finishing times. However, to ensure that we do our best to keep the whole school community safe, we will be implementing a new start to the day:

- Children in EYFS (Reception and Nursery) should arrive at school between 8:40 and 8:50am and can be taken to their classroom door by their parent / carer.
- Children in KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) should arrive at school between 8:40 and 8:50am and should leave their parent / carer on the playground before immediately taking themselves to their classroom.
- Children in Lower KS2 (Years 3 and 4) should arrive at school between 8:40 and 8:50am and should leave their parent / carer at the end of the

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school driveway before immediately taking themselves to their classroom.

- Children in Upper KS2 (Years 5 and 6) are allowed to walk to school without a parent / carer and should arrive at school between 8:40 and 8:50am immediately taking themselves to their classroom. If you prefer to continue walking your Upper KS2 child to school, please follow the arrangements for Lower KS2.

The children are familiar with this procedure from before the summer holidays however, we will ensure that additional adults are available to make sure children arrive safely at the right classes!

Children attending the LDC will arrive and leave in taxis following the normal arrangements.

All children in Reception to Year 4 should be collected from the playground at the end of the day. We would again request that parents entering the playground endeavour to socially distance outside their child's classroom upon arrival to school. Wherever possible, only one parent should collect their child. It has been requested that parents / carers waiting with dogs, do so away from the top of the driveway to avoid congestion. Children in Year 5 & 6 are allowed to walk home without a parent/ carer.

Infection control and social distancing measures as of September

It is important that we continue to maintain proportionate infection control and social distancing measures when we welcome back all pupils and staff from 6th September 2021. To ensure everyone's safety, we will continue to enforce the following as part of our risk management plan:

- Anyone who is unwell and displaying symptoms of coronavirus will be asked to stay at home and take a PCR test.
- Robust hand and respiratory hygiene practises will be encouraged and enforced.
- Enhanced cleaning will be undertaken as necessary, including cleaning any frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.
- The NHS 'Test and Trace' system will be actively used and followed.
- Some limitations will be placed on the number of people staff and pupils encounter during the school day.

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- Large gatherings will take place (eg assemblies) but numbers might be limited.
- Pupils will no longer be asked to remain in class bubbles but the number of bubbles mixing at any one time might be limited.
- All staff now have access to Lateral Flow (LF) Testing which takes place twice weekly.
- All parents also have access to this testing and are encouraged to take regular LF tests.

Should any of the above protective measures change at any time, including the need to close the school due to a local lockdown, we will contact you via email as soon as possible. The newly updated Risk Assessment will shortly be available on our school website.

If your child becomes unwell

Your child will be sent home immediately if they develop one of the following symptoms:

- a new, continuous cough
- a high temperature, or
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of smell or taste.

They will be told to self-isolate within the school and supervised, where necessary, until they can be collected. The school will contact you via telephone as soon as possible should your child need to go home.

If we do not have your up-to-date contact details, please contact the school office as soon as possible to notify us of any changes.

If your child becomes unwell at home and is presenting with symptoms of coronavirus (listed above), we ask that your child does not attend school and instead stays at home and takes a PCR test to confirm whether or not they have Covid-19.

Please contact the school office via telephone before 8:30am to notify us that your child will not be attending. We also ask that you notify the school office as soon as possible with the results of any coronavirus tests your child has undertaken.

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How pupils will be grouped

Children will be taught in their year groups, however they will now have the opportunity to mix with other classes at various times throughout the school day. This might include:

- Assemblies
- Playtimes
- Lunchtime
- Music lessons
- Clubs
- Extra-curricular activities

Supporting pupils with SEND

We are committed to supporting each individual pupil fully as they return to school. To help support pupils with SEND transition back into school, the headteacher and SENCO will meet to discuss additional provision and training which can be put into place as required.

Please do not hesitate to contact the headteacher or SENCO on 01953 603061 or via email should you have any concerns specific to your child's needs.

We also understand that some of the protective measures identified in our risk management plan may not be suitable or practical for all pupils. We are, therefore, committed to helping all pupils stay safe as best we can and working with your child to help encourage good hand and respiratory hygiene.

We will continue to provide educational and care support as normal to pupils who require it.

If your child has a medical need which might affect their return to school, please seek advice from their medical team.

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Catering arrangements

School kitchens will be fully open from the start of term. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are all entitled to a Universal Infant Free School Meal and Free School Meals will also be provided for eligible children in KS2. If your circumstances have changed, and you think that your child might be entitled to free school meals, please contact the school office.

We aim to have the majority of pupils eating in the dining hall again this term. I am working closely with our kitchen staff and MSAs to ensure that this can happen safely.

Educational visits

Schools visits can resume fully this term. The school will thoroughly risk assess all visits to ensure that venues are Covid-19 secure.

School uniform

The school expects all pupils to wear school uniform – pupils' compliance will be managed in line with the School Uniform guidance.

We have taken the decision to allow children to wear PE kit throughout the day on the days that they have PE. Not only will this ensure fewer possessions are in the corridors, but will also save time changing for P.E. We will re-evaluate the effectiveness of this change within the first half term and will inform you if any changes are to be made.

We would like to remind you that hair should be the child's **natural colour** and that jewellery is limited to a watch and small stud earrings which need to be removed by themselves for physical activities.

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Face coverings

Staff will continue to wear face masks in busy areas around school. Therefore, I would ask that whenever parents enter the school grounds (playground or buildings) they also continue to wear a face covering.

So far, we have managed so well to keep our staff and children safe at school. We will continue to safely implement the necessary procedures to keep everyone safe, whilst allowing the children to fully enjoy their time at school. I would like to thank everyone for their support and cooperation.

Here's to another successful year at Browick Road!

Yours sincerely,

Pauline McMullan
Headteacher