



Burtonwood CP Newsletter 26th February 2021



Full Opening Arrangements!

We are delighted to be able to welcome back all our children on Monday 8th March. This week, we have been held meetings to review our control measures and staggered timings arrangements and our risk assessment is being reviewed. There is very little change in the latest government guidance from the guidance we followed in September. For that reason, and because it worked so successfully for us, we will largely be following the same full opening arrangements including staggered start and end times; staggered break and lunch times; use of the car park entrances for some classes; our childcare offer for siblings; and measures within school to keep bubbles and the equipment they use separate. We are updating the full opening plan for parents and this will be signposted on our website for your reference.

We are very proud of how well almost all of the children have engaged with the remote learning. If your child is currently learning from home, please encourage them to keep up the great work so that they minimise any gaps in their knowledge and understanding when they return on 8th March. We will be continuing with our catch-up programme and, if your child was taking part in this, their class teacher will be in touch soon about when it will resume.

Attendance from 8th March

Attendance for all children is mandatory from 8th March. This means that we will be expecting **ALL** children to attend unless they are following shielding or self-isolation directions from the NHS. In exceptional circumstances, we agreed in the Autumn term that some children with household members who are shielding could have their absence authorised. However, with the vaccination programme running so effectively and the majority of elderly and clinically extremely vulnerable people having already accessed their first vaccine, any such arrangement will be subject to further review by ourselves and Warrington Attendance Team.

Link Club

Please contact Nicola urgently on **fun4kids.childcare@gmail.com** if you require a childcare place before or after school from 8th March.

Availability is limited due to the need to arrange consistent bubbles as part of infection control measures.

Mental Health

We understand that some parents and children may be anxious about returning and we would like to reassure you that our control measures so far have been very successful, with only 3 positive cases in school in the past 6 months. Please do speak to us if you and/or your child are struggling with anxiety around the full opening so that we can offer support. We also have mental health resources for children and parents on the Parents tab on our website, including wellbeing, positive parenting, talking to children about Covid19, worries, anxiety, bereavement and crisis lines. Here is a direct link <https://www.burtonwoodcp.co.uk/parents/health-and-wellbeing>

Parents Afternoons/Evenings

Although we would normally be holding parent-teacher progress meetings the second week after February half term, we believe these will be more meaningful once all children have returned, settled and completed some assessments.

So, the remote meetings will take place in **the week commencing 22nd March**. Your child's teacher will contact you to advise which days and times they are offering. As the circumstances did not allow for us to write mid-year reports, and concerns about learning or wellbeing may have arisen during lockdown, we are offering longer appointment times of 15 minutes on this occasion.

Covid19 Law on Gatherings

Infection rates have fallen dramatically since the first week of this lockdown and we finally have a roadmap with provisional dates for life returning to normal, which is great news.

However, we urge parents to still follow the current law on gatherings, whether these are of children, adults or both. This is with the health of the whole community in mind so that schools can safely re-open.

Thank you in advance for your continuing cooperation and compliance with this. It is much appreciated.

Welcome Back Week

Academic catch-up is likely to be a top priority for a long time to come but the children based at home since early January have missed many other vital aspects of school life, including the daily opportunities to develop socially and emotionally by interacting with others and taking part in active sessions. We would like them to spend their first week back enjoying bringing some balance back with this.

As a refreshing change from all the screen time our children have been experiencing, we are going to make their first week back in school a 'no device week', when they can do more practical and hands-on activities and spend some time outside in our wonderful grounds, weather permitting.

And, 'no devices' goes for homework, too. Apologies in advance if they are returned to you grubby and have 'messy' homework!

We will also run an Equality theme week based on No Outsiders.

Latest Government Guidance for Parents and Carers

Please find this under the Covid19 section of the Parents tab on the website.

Contact Details

We have noticed that some of the phone numbers and addresses on our records are not current. If you have changed any contact details, and not advised school of the updated information, please do so as soon as possible.

ParentPay

For parents of children who have been remote learning, please check your balance and ensure there is credit there before 8am on 8th March if you require snacks and/or pay for school dinners for your child.

Statutory Assessments—Years 2 & 6

The government has advised that SATS will not be taking place in Summer 2021. We will still have tests using past papers, for our own internal tracking and in order to pass on attainment to the high school. However, the results of these are not reportable to the government.