



High Street, Blakeney, GL15 4EB
Telephone: 01594 510270
Fax: 01594 510380
e-Mail: admin@blakeney.gloucs.sch.uk
Website: www.blakeney.school.co.uk



Walmore Hill, Minsterworth, GL2 8LA
Telephone: 01452 750373
Fax: 01452 750373
e-Mail: admin@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk
Website: www.walmorehill.school.co.uk



School Road, Pillowell, GL15 4QT
Telephone: 01594 562244
Fax: 01594 564945
e-Mail: admin@pillowell.gloucs.sch.uk
Website: www.pillowellschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Brett Stevenson

Dear Parents,

Returning to School in September 2020

Firstly, I hope you and those dear to you are all well. We have two more weeks of the Summer Term left, and naturally we are looking forward to September when all of the children should be back in school. Of course, this is based upon there not being either a local or a national lockdown again.

The Government have issued lots of guidance over the last few months regarding operating schools safely. It seems that with the latest guidance many of the measures that were in place to minimise risk have been taken away; as this is possibly the only way that schools can function more normally.

For example, the 2 metre rule / advice is no longer applicable in schools, unless you are the teacher. There is an aspirational or ideal size for a pupil 'bubble' which is now 30, not 15 pupils. Other measures that we will consider include:

- avoiding contact between these 'bubbles' during the school day
- separate starting, finishing, lunch and break times
- regular cleaning of hands
- no big group events like school assemblies, Fetes, or school productions
- arranging our classrooms with forward facing desks, wherever possible

Wherever possible we want the return to school to be as normal as possible, but we will not compromise the safety of staff and pupils and their families.

Symptoms

If your child is poorly in school, we shall be expecting you to make arrangements to pick them up from school in a reasonable time. This has always been the case. The latest guidance we have regarding COVID-19 symptoms is similar as to before. We will isolate your child safely with a member of staff.

Start and Finish Times

Unfortunately, we will not be allowing parents on the school site at the start and end of the school day. We will be asking parents and carers to wait outside of *either* the school gates at the start and end of the school day. Please maintain social distancing outside the gates at all times. Staff will collect and return the children as follows:

Class	Teacher	Year Group	Start time	Finish Time
Hepworth	Mrs Jusic	Year 3	08.30	2.45
	Miss Haagen	Year 4		
Hepworth	Mr Forster	Year 5	08.40	2.55
		Year 6		
Banksy	Mrs Matthews	Year 1	08.50	3.15
		Year 2		
Lowry	Mrs Gorton	Reception	09.00	3.15
	Mrs Allen	Year 1		

If you have more than one child who have different timings then you should bring them **all** at the earlier start time (08.30). They can be collected at the earlier finish time (2.45). We may have to evaluate these timings once we have had time to reflect in September.

Uniform

It is our expectation that children should wear uniform as normal, in September. However, it is also my expectation that pupils are dressed in fresh clean clothes daily. As a parent myself I know that this is not always possible. Currently the children in school wear clean and 'sensible' clothes to school, when they do not have clean uniform. **Children should wear trainers to school** (see below).

PE Kit

The children will not be required to change for PE, as is the case currently. However, we will continually monitor this, and may in the future ask for clean PE kit to be brought into school every week. As the children will be wearing trainers, PE lessons will still be able to ahead in September without full kit.

Reading Books and Homework

We are developing a system in which reading books and homework materials will be sent to and from school safely. There will not be an expectation that reading books are brought in every day, but of course there will be an expectation that you continue to read with the selection of books that we distribute on a weekly basis.

Wraparound Care

Our provision of Breakfast Club will recommence in September, please refer to the website for more details and prices etc. Looking to the future, it may be viable to provide an After School provision as well. If this is the case, I will let you know as soon as possible.

Blakeney School will be running a summer holiday club this year. Details will be on the website when they are finalised.

Flexible Approach

At all times, both before and after we went into 'lockdown' we have, as a staff, tried to be accommodating and adapt to either a family's needs, or that of individual children. If we find that one or some of our approaches do not seem to be working, we may have to change them swiftly. I will, of course, try to give you as much notice as possible

Finally

I know that many of you have enjoyed spending extra time at home with your children. I also know that some of you are anxious about the amount of time spent away from school learning, and are worried that your child will have 'missed' much of their learning, and will perhaps struggle to catch up.

To a certain extent some of this may be true. But please rest assured that all the staff will be focussed on providing the best support we can offer. Our school has always done this. Our aim, as always is for them to leave our school having being immersed in the very best kind of teaching. We want them to thrive. I don't doubt there will be some difficult moments in the autumn, but by the end of next year our aspiration is for the children to be more than ready for the next stage of their learning.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you have lovely summer, and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brett Stevenson', with a large loop and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brett Stevenson
Headteacher