



*If children are happy, they will achieve!*

## Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

We are thrilled to be welcoming back all pupils on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and we are really looking forward to getting back to some sort of normality again. As previously communicated in September, we will be operating a staggered start and end to the school day, with different groups arriving at different times. This is to limit a large gathering of children and parents outside the school gates at any one time. Please also only **have one parent/carer** at drop off/collection times and ensure you wear a face covering. Please note, if your children have different surnames, your allocated time will be based on the surname of your eldest child for all your children. Please refer to the table below as before.

Group	Drop off time	Collection time
Siblings at BPS Surname A-K	08:40	15:00
Siblings at BPS Surname L-Z	08:45	15:05
Only Child at BPS Surname A-H	08:50	15:10
Only Child at BPS Surname I-Z	08:55	15:15

There will be a clearly signposted one way system at the front of the school for drop offs and collections to ensure this runs smoothly. You will see clearly marked drop off barriers and only children will be permitted to enter past the barrier. On collection, please enter the bottom part of the playground as before and ensure you observe social distancing at all times. Thank you.

**ITEMS TO BRING:** You will see from our Risk assessment, we are operating a '**NO BAGS**' policy this term, to reduce the amount of items coming to and from school, and to provide more space in school for social distancing. Your child will only need to bring with them their lunch, and a water bottle, both of which can be carried by your child without any need for a bag. The only exception for this will be book bags for children in KS1 on their book change day please. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

**PE DAYS:** PE days are as follows from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, and children should come to school in PE kit on their allocated day as before please:

Monday	Year 4
Tuesday	Year 1
Wednesday	Year 3
Thursday	Year 6 and Year 5
Friday	Reception & Year 2

**READING BOOKS:** In the infants, your child will change their reading books weekly. Your child's teacher will let you know which day your child needs to bring in their books to change. They do not need to bring their books in any other day or bring their reading record into school. We quarantine books for 72 hours before placing them back on the shelves. Your child should choose 3 books of the colour band they are on and one of the band above. There will be a drop box in the parent shelter for the children to drop their books in as they arrive in school. Staff will help them choose new books in class to come home that day. In the juniors, children will choose a text in school to keep on their desk for reading time, and they can take one home for home reading. We will not be asking them to bring them into school each day, but to have a home book, and a school book for the reasons outlined above. We would like you to listen to your child read at least three times a week, but aim for everyday, and record this on Marvellous Me. Thank you very much.

**EXPLORERS:** Breakfast and after school club will reopen on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and you will have received a booking form via Marvellous Me and it can also be found on the school website. Access to the school premises will be limited and parents will be unable to come onto school grounds. Please use the bell next to the locked small gate on the noticeboard which will signal your arrival to staff.

Timings for drop offs and collections have also be altered:

- 🕒 Breakfast club – you must arrive at 7:30-7:45am – a member of the Explorers team will be on the gate and see the children into the setting.
- 🕒 Anyone arriving after this time will need to use the doorbell, but we will not accept arrivals after 8am.
- 🕒 Afternoon session – you must use the doorbell to signal your arrival to staff. They will see who is at the gate and escort your child/ren to you.

The number of children able to attend Explorers is currently limited to 20 on any given session. These children will need to be pre-booked within 72hours of attendance, if space is available. Allocation will be on a first come basis. If you have any queries please email [admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk)

**UNIFORM:** With the warmer weather starting to make an appearance children are welcome to start wearing summer uniform. Below is a reminder of our summer uniform. Please also be mindful that windows are open in classrooms for ventilation, so please ensure your child has suitable layers.

### SUMMER UNIFORM

**GIRLS**            Either grey or black skirt/culottes/pinafore  
White blouse or polo shirt (tie need **NOT** be worn)  
OR Green and white dress

**BOYS**            Either grey or black shorts/trousers  
White polo shirt (tie need **NOT** be worn)

**PLEASE NOTE: OPEN TOED SANDALS MUST NOT BE WORN**

**PARENTS' EVENING:** We will be holding virtual parents evenings on **Tuesday 30th March for KS2** and **Wednesday 31st March** for EYFS and KS1. Appointments will be available between 1pm and 6:30pm on these dates. We have introduced a new, easy to use online booking system which will allow you to chose your 10 minute appointment. A letter detailing how to access the new system will be send out via Marvellous Me. Appointments can be made from Tuesday 9th March and will close on Tuesday 16th March. Should you wish to make any changes after this date, please contact the school office. Thank you.

## Testing staff

We are delighted to be able to inform you that 50% of our staff have now received or are booked in for their first covid vaccination, and we hope it won't be long until all staff are vaccinated. This includes all our Nursery and EYFS staff, and our wrap around care team.

As part of our safety measures, staff at Berkeley Primary continue to use lateral flow test (LFT) tests (throat and nasal swabs) to test twice a week. As part of the governments roadmap to lift restrictions, they are now extending the offer that is already in place for primary school staff to offer lateral flow tests for home self-administration to anyone within your household bubble and support bubble. (This **excludes** primary school aged children). The lateral flow tests are for the identification of asymptomatic cases of covid-19.

If this is something that your home bubbles would like to do, please follow the link to find your nearest collection point or to order test kits to be delivered to your home.

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=ca1c659b-95d6-490e-87c6-d6c09e85ecfb&utm\\_content=immediately](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=ca1c659b-95d6-490e-87c6-d6c09e85ecfb&utm_content=immediately)

## Pastoral care

Our first priority for the children's transition back into school this term, will be to focus on their wellbeing and any pastoral care required to help them settle back into school life and routines. Teachers will be planning social activities to help children reintegrate with friendship groups, and lots of outdoor learning activities focused on teamwork and confidence building. Once the children settle back, and feel happy and secure with their learning, we will assess any potential learning gaps and work once again on our curriculum recovery for all learners, helping them to achieve their full potential.

Teachers will be sending out a 'Back to school' form for your children to fill in and return to them to help with their transition, and for teachers to help prepare them for this change. This lockdown has seen another change in our children's lives, and some may need time to adjust. If you feel your child has particular struggles or anxieties about their return to school, and would like to speak to Mrs Carrick, our PPSA, please email [rcarrick@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:rcarrick@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk) so we can work together help make this transition as smooth as possible.

We look forward to welcoming all the children back next week.

Yours sincerely



Miss Robbins and all the team here at Berkeley Primary

Please see our school website for the latest version of our Covid-19 Risk Assessment.

<https://www.berkeleyprimary.org.uk/parents/newsletters>