



27th April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We extend a warm welcome to the Summer term at BHPS. It is, already, an improvement on the summer term of last year and we celebrate the fact that we have all our children back at school. Long may it continue.

School Specific Measures

As the infection rates drop in England, we find ourselves in a position where we begin to get hopeful about the future. We are hoping that, if the guidance permits, we might be able to plan some events for the school community. Watch this space!

In the meantime, it is essential that we remain cautious and all the previous control measures are still being implemented. Therefore, we will be continuing to operate:

- A drop off window for all year groups between 8:40 and 8:55am. Please do not arrive before 8:40 and that children should be in their classroom seats by 8:55, not just walking through the school gates.
- A staggered collection system with different year groups being dismissed at different times
 - 2:50 Foundation
 - 3:00 Yrs 1, 2 & 3
 - 3:05 Yr 5
 - 3:10 Yrs 4 & 6
- Use of a one-way system for parents and carers
- Face masks to be used by all parents, carers and staff during drop off and pick up times
- Face masks being used by all staff in school in communal areas
- Staff engaging in lateral flow testing twice a week
- Children operating in year group bubbles
- Frequent handwashing
- Desks and activities arranged in all year groups from 1 to 6 to minimise the opportunities for close contact

Staff Changes

It is notable within the teaching profession that, following a time of limited movement last summer, there are an increasing number of opportunities and movement taking place in schools at present.

For us at BHPS, this means that we will be saying a very fond farewell to **Mrs Poxon** in the school office at the end of this week. She has gained a promotion to the post of office manager at the Florence Nightingale Academy and we wish her every success in her new role. This opportunity is richly deserved and it is hard to imagine how we would have managed over the last 12 months without her.

In addition, we need to share the information that **Mrs Osborne** will also be leaving BHPS at the end of this term. After 18 years she has also gained promotion to the position of Literacy Leader for the Djanogly Academy Trust. Mrs Osborne has always played a key part in the developments of reading and writing at Bramcote Hills and has been a member of the Senior Leadership Team for many years. She will be greatly missed.

Equation Domestic Abuse Team for Men

I am able to pass on to you the following information which has kindly been made available to us.

Equation offers support, safety planning and advocacy to males and self-identifying males experiencing Domestic Abuse and Violence to anyone residing in Nottingham City and Nottingham County areas. This service covers anyone experiencing domestic abuse from an intimate partner, ex intimate partner or a family member.

The service runs from Monday to Friday. 9.30 - 4.30.

The Helpline Number is 0115 9605556 and there is a secure and confidential answerphone outside of this time also. In addition to this you can access more information and make a referral via our website referral form at: <https://equation.org.uk/service-for-men/> or you can email into: helpline@equation.org.uk

Catch Up

I have mentioned before about the potential dangers of assuming that a few extra hours teaching could enable children to 'catch up' on what they have missed during the whole of the pandemic. It is true there are gains that can be made with some focussed teaching and we now have several intervention programmes that are up and running throughout the school. This includes taking part in the *Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI)* which fosters language development in the younger years. We are also investing in extra sporting activities as we know how important these are for children's emotional well-being and physical health. It has also been clear that being away from school has impacted on children's need for friendship, game playing and social contact. It will take time but it is great to see the children benefit from the opportunities that school provides.

Travelling to School Safely

It is likely that the roads and public transport system will be busier than when children returned in March, given that other businesses have reopened. Please can we remind you that;

- if you live a short distance from BHPS, you can walk, cycle or scoot to and from school wherever it is possible and safe to do so (remember bikes and scooters are located outside the secure gates and so should be locked up)
- you should avoid sharing a car with anyone outside of your household or support bubble
- if you are using public transport to get to school, plan ahead and allow more time for your journey
- if you have to drive, please do not park in the red zone. It is preferable to park some way away from school and walk the remaining distance

The Big Ask

The Big Ask is the largest ever survey of children in England and will be used to shape priorities for children's services in the future. It will take the views, opinions, and experiences of children and parents to show government what they think and what they need to lead happier lives. We would like as many of you to take part as possible. It's part of the Childhood Commissioner, Rachel de Souza's, aim to identify barriers preventing children from reaching their full potential. Children can complete The Big Ask's online questionnaire [here](#):

There is a link within the Big Ask website to an adult survey.

Yours faithfully,



Pete Taylor
Head Teacher