



Frequently Asked Questions about the return to school

Are all children returning to school in September?

Yes, school reopens on the 1st September which is a training day for **staff only.** **On Wednesday 2nd September** all pupils from Reception to Year 6 will return to school. However, there will be staggered start times so please look at the timetable to show drop off/collection times and points.

What are the arrangements for Butterflies?

Children who have NOT attended butterflies before are invited to an induction morning or afternoon.

Children who will attend mornings only or have a 30-hour place are invited to an induction morning on **Wednesday 2nd September 9.30-11.30am.** Parents will arrive at the butterflies' entrance, leaving their child as they are not allowed in the school building.

Children who will attend afternoons only are invited to an induction afternoon on **Wednesday 2nd September 12.30-2.30pm.** Parents will arrive at the butterflies' entrance, leaving their child as they are not allowed in the school building.

ALL children will then start Butterflies independently on **Monday 7th September.**

Morning session- 8:30am- 11:30am

Afternoon session- 12:15pm- 3:15pm

Full day- 8:30am-3:15pm

How will my child's day be organised? What provision has been made to keep them safe?

In line with government guidance, we have made a number of alterations and amendments to the school day and organisation:

- School will be operating a 'bubble' system. These bubbles will allow us to keep pupils together and reduce cross contamination of resources, rooms, and adults they come into contact with. There will be bubbles of 30 pupils in each class bubble. Butterflies will work in a bubble of up to 41, which is then split into family group bubbles.
- Children in each bubble will work with a consistent teacher and teaching assistant. When staff are given PPA time they may have a different teacher, but this will be kept to a minimum. Class bubbles will not mix with any other children.

- Regular hand washing will take place during the day and there will be hand sanitising stations placed throughout the school.
- Site staff and teachers/teaching assistants will ensure that as many surfaces, door handles etc are cleaned as frequently as possible.
- Break and lunch time will be staggered to ensure pupils remain within their bubble. Outside spaces will be sectioned off to allow space for individual groups.
- Children will NOT be two metres apart however we aim to reduce the amount of time pupils are in face to face contact, therefore pupils MUST be seated side by side and facing forwards. Unnecessary furniture will be moved out of classrooms to make more space.
- Staff will NOT be sending out work for those who remain at home. We expect every child to be back at school.
- We will endeavour wherever possible to give all children some time outside. If the weather is fine this may include eating their lunch.
- Children will not be allowed to share ANY equipment for hygiene reasons. We ask that all children bring their own pencil cases and stationery to school which will not be shared.
- If a pupil or staff member in a bubble displays any of the COVID-19 symptoms, they will be sent home immediately. They MUST then arrange a test and inform school of the results ASAP.
- Wherever possible, we are going to try to enjoy the grounds of our school, utilising our outside areas etc. Therefore, would you please ensure that appropriate footwear (wellies if necessary) are provided alongside sun cream being applied (weather dependent) before attending school and send your child with a labelled water bottle filled with fresh water daily.
- Pupils will not be allowed to play in the school grounds before the start of the day. The school gates will be opened at precise drop off and collection times only and parents will be asked to leave the school premises swiftly.

Will staff be wearing PPE?

The latest guidance tells us that staff do not need PPE. At Brook we will be providing PPE equipment (gloves/ aprons/masks) for staff if they wish to use it and when giving first aid or intimate care.

What provision will there be for lunches?

The school kitchen has re-designed the menu to offer one hot choice or a sandwich grab bag. All children will be able to order meals using the Parent Pay system and must be booked in advance. If lunches are not booked, children will be given a sandwich grab bag only. Lunches will be eaten in the classroom. The menu will be reviewed so at this point you can only book lunches up until October half term.

What will be the arrangements for dropping off and collection?

Each year group 'bubble' will be given a drop off/collection time and place. Please see the staggered timetable. Parents may have more than one child entering school at different times. We know that this is inconvenient but there is no other option. Once one child has been dropped off, you will need to leave the school site, wait in your car or off the school premises and then return with the other sibling at their drop off time.

What is different for parents?

- Parents will not be allowed in the school building. If there are any concerns or queries, please contact the school office by telephone or email.
- Parents must ensure safe social distancing on school grounds AT ALL TIMES.
- Only one adult will be allowed to drop off or pick up at a given time
- The school will ask you to collect your child via a particular route.
- Could we also ask that parents try to walk to school with their child to limit the number of cars. This will allow parents to observe social distancing easier.
- Some of our pupils have been away from school and staff for a while now and may become distressed on entry to school. We will endeavour to do all that we can to encourage the children to come into school and ask that all parents support this by assuring children that it is safe to do so.
- Our behaviour policy has been adapted along with other key policies. Hygiene rules and the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach continues to be very important- it is an essential school rule. Any incidents of biting, spitting (very, very rare) will lead to your child being sent home. Please speak to your child about behaviour expectations.

Will I get fined if I don't send my child to school?

Yes, from September, the DfE guidance states that 'Education is not an option'- the government expects ALL children to return to school full time in September. This is compulsory and the government are re-introducing fixed penalty notices and fines for non-attendance.

Is the environment friendly for them under the circumstances?

We will obviously try to make this as happy and as 'normal' as we possibly can, but we also have to recognise the enormous challenge the pandemic has put on our school community. It is imperative that we focus on getting to know the pupils, sharing experiences during the lockdown period, discussing thoughts/feelings, mindfulness/well-being, use of PSHE association planning/resources, concentrating on basic skills in English and Maths- recognising any gaps, sharing new rules and routines (hygiene/ catch it, bin it, kill it' approach).

Will my child be 'told off' for not adhering to the rules?

The children will be reminded regularly that they must stay in their class bubbles and at break and lunch time they must stay within their designated zone. If children refuse to adhere to the rules and are placing others at risk, parents will be contacted. We will remind all children of the expectations regularly.

Does my child need to wear school uniform?

Yes, uniform can play a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. Therefore, we would like all pupils to return in September in full school uniform. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

Does my child need to bring a PE kit to school?

No. Wherever possible PE should be delivered outdoors to limit the transmission of the virus. PE lessons will start from **Thursday 3rd September**, children will be informed on Wednesday 2nd September of their PE day. On a PE day, children will not wear their school uniform and will wear their PE kit. Parents should be reminded that appropriate kits should be worn, dependent upon the weather e.g. blue or black joggers or shorts, white t-shirt or white long-sleeved top, and blue or black jumper/zip up hoodie. (No football kits)

What should my child bring to school?

Due to the current situation children will be limited to what they can bring into school. We would strongly advise to help with space, that children do not bring **big** bags unnecessary to school. Children just need to bring:

- A pencil case with their own stationery (NOT to be shared)
- A water bottle
- Coat
- Lunch box (if not having a school lunch)
- Reading book

Will breakfast & after school club be running?

Yes, but not until **Monday 7th September**. In line with Government guidance, we will be resuming our breakfast and after school club provision. The children will be organised into three bubbles of 8 and each bubble will work with a designated member of Buddies staff: Mrs E Hudson, Ms T Butler and Mrs E Brown. We ask that all places in Buddies are booked by the Thursday of each week so that arrangements can be made. Buddies will not be operating in the first week of term, the provision will start on **Monday 7th September**, to allow us to make the appropriate arrangements. Booking for the week beginning 7th September must be made by no later than **Thursday 3rd September**. Parents will be notified about which 'bubble' their child is in and the necessary drop off and collection point. We will endeavour to keep children of a similar age and sibling groups together, but this will not be guaranteed. We will adhere to all DFE handwashing and surface disinfecting guidance at all times.

**If you have any further questions please email them into:
info@brook.dudley.sch.uk. The answers to all questions will be added to
this document throughout the summer holidays so please check for
updates.**