



# Broadwindsor Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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“Learning and growing together”

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As promised, I am writing to update you on our potential plans for September which we are beginning to put together as a staff team. These plans will come into operation on the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> September when we will be welcoming all pupils back. As previously, we are using the Government guidelines and Dorset Council risk assessment to inform our provision.

During phased return, each learning group ‘bubble’ needed to be no more than 15 children and specific adults within it. Due to the reduced prevalence of the coronavirus, Government guidelines will be relaxed in the autumn term so that learning groups or bubbles can now be bigger. At Broadwindsor we are planning to operate **class size** bubbles and these bubbles will have consistent staff for the majority of the time. However, in order that we can operate the school full timetable in a small school like ours, some staff will need to move between classes. Where this is needed, the now usual control measures such as hand washing and social distancing will be used (as guidelines suggest). You may have heard in the media that some bubbles can be much bigger than 30 but where this is used much stricter social distancing will be required which would not be possible with younger pupils and usually in Secondary Schools. We are wanting to reduce the number of contacts individuals have as a key control measure, as maintaining social distancing isn’t possible for younger primary pupils. We have also considered that where a positive test is confirmed a whole bubble may be asked to isolate, although we would always be guided and advised by the Health Protection Team of Public Health England. This would obviously have a bigger impact on a whole school bubble than a class bubble. I know the whole-school being together is important for our learning community so we will look at ways of groups interacting together outside safely and virtual assemblies where the whole-school come together over the internet. As risks reduce further we will be able to do more.

Class bubbles will be as follows:

- Reception will be led by Mrs Morgan (Mary Anning classroom)
- Year One and Two group will be led by Mrs Killick (Thomas Hardy classroom)
- Year Three and Four group will be led by Mrs Taylor and Mr Smith (William Barnes classroom)
- Year Five and Six Group will be led by Mr Draper (Jane Austen classroom)

Other key features of the September plans at Broadwindsor using the guidance given by the Government are likely to be:

- The school will take a flexible approach to learning programmes and curriculum but following the principle of offering an ‘ambitious and broad’ curriculum in all subjects.



- Assessment and observation will assess starting points and modifications made to lesson sequences so that gaps in core skills are filled quickly. School will also support children to be happy and back in school and support their social and emotional development.
- Sports coaches and music teachers will return to school with appropriate control measures. This will allow the full curriculum to be taught and means that teachers have their time away from pupils to plan. Children will be taught further computer skills and school online systems in case home-learning is required again.
- Children will spend the majority of their learning in their classroom space. Teachers will try to use the outdoors as much as possible too. However in the next phase children will access shared learning spaces such as the hall and library but as a class group and with additional cleaning measures.
- Children **will be** expected to wear school uniform as the new guidelines require no more washing of clothes than usual.
- On PE days children will wear slight adaptations to school uniform so no need for changing. Children to wear dark coloured jogging bottoms/track suit bottoms or leggings along with white polo shirt and school sweatshirt on those days. Children to have trainers and/or plimsolls in school every day to change into. We have a new online uniform ordering system available for sweatshirts, cardigans & coats – separate tab on the school website under 'For Parents'. Book bags and backpacks still need to be purchased via the office.
- Playtimes and lunchtimes will be organised to support class bubbles to play separately from each other.
- Key Stage 2 children will eat their lunch within their classroom and younger pupils will eat their lunch in the hall. We are planning to offer hot meals for all those eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) and Universal Free Schools meals (Year R and 1, 2) supplied by Local Food Links and those other children that require a hot meal.
- Schools have been asked to consider staggered starts and ends. At Broadwindsor, pupils will need to be in school as usual by 8.45am. There is a 15 minute window from 8.30am to 8.45am for families to arrive and therefore spread the time out that children arrive. Pupils will need to enter the building unaccompanied. At the end of the day different collection points will operate to support social distancing of adults and collection of younger pupils will begin 5 minutes earlier at 3.10pm and 3.15pm for Key Stage 2 pupils. Families to leave the school site as soon as possible.
- Our Reception pupils will have a more extended starting school transition of two weeks (details of this have been circulated with those parents).
- All children to attend school unless being asked to specifically shield and usual attendance policies come back into operation.
- The usual free access to the school office will not be possible to start with – contact must be by appointment only or via telephone or email.
- Staff and children must not attend if they have any symptoms of COVID-19 or are self-isolating due to symptoms being exhibited by someone else in their household.
- Enhanced cleaning, cleaning hands thoroughly, more often, and required PPE equipment used to support intimate care and children who are unwell following Government guidelines



I would recommend that you read the following guidance from the DfE relating to the full opening in September of schools - [guidance for parents and carers](#)

Please bear with us while we continue to plan for our September return. We will publish more detailed information including the Dorset Council Risk Assessment the school will use. With next week being the last before the summer holidays it is unlikely that all of this paperwork will be ready to be published for parents by then. This information will be published on the school website during the second half of the summer holidays.

What we can guarantee is that our staff team will continue to work hard to provide the best provision for families we can do with resources we have to hand. We are planning over the summer to change some interactive whiteboard positioning, new classroom layouts of furniture, additional investment in ICT equipment and improved hand-washing/toilets in Early Years.

Apologies that this is a long letter with lots to think about and digest, however, it is important that we share with you our thoughts and ideas at this stage.

Thank you for your continued support. We do appreciate it.

Philip Smith  
Headteacher

