



11 September 2020

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

Welcome back!

The end of the first week for our children has come and what a delight it has been to welcome you all back. All three schools have been filled with listening, talking, laughter and many smiling faces. It has been fantastic to see. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for the support you have shown. To the staff for guiding the children in their new ways of working and making the classrooms feel safe and secure. To the parents and carers, for following our new procedures and being patient while we get our plans to work the best we can and, of course, to our children for their positive approach to everything that is asked of them. Thank you.

We now ask you, that more than ever, to continue to follow the new procedures we have in place. We appreciate you may have to walk a little further or wait a little longer but we want everyone to be as safe as can be. Please respect the social distancing rules, follow any one way systems in place and drop off/pick up at the allocated time. We are trying our hardest to make it work and we really appreciate your ongoing support.

We are still in very uncertain times but having your support is incredibly helpful. If you have any questions, thoughts and concerns, please do email info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk

Have a lovely weekend,

Rachel Waite
Executive Headteacher

We have had a great first week back to school at Brindishe Green. It has been lovely to see so many children thrilled to see their friends, and making new relationships with the adults. The teachers and support staff have really enjoyed getting to know the children in their classes and everyone has been working together to make school a happy and safe place.

Although many of the children have settled well, we know for some children this may take a little longer. If you have any concerns about your child settling back in to school, then please do let us know. You can use our recovery@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk email address to share any thoughts or worries. A member of the senior leadership team will be able to get back to you or pass on your concerns to the appropriate adult.



PLEASE NOTE:

- From Monday 14th September, we encourage all adults who are dropping off and collecting children from school to wear a face mask/covering.
- We also remind all adults to adhere to social distancing when waiting outside school and when on school premises.
- Please exit the school premises quickly and do not wait in the staff carpark or by the back gates.

COVID-19 update

Please read this information carefully so we can help prevent a huge increase in demand for tests from people without coronavirus symptoms.

It is imperative that if any parent, carer or child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell

or you are recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse), you must get tested for coronavirus.

If a parent, carer or child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms described above, **only they should be tested**. There is **no need** for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic. **However, siblings will not be allowed into school IF any member of the household is showing COVID-19 symptoms and awaiting results of a test.** All members of your household must stay at home until your test result has come back.

Please ensure you notify the school if your child is absent by phoning the school office before 9am.

As we return to school, children may feel unwell for example with a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. **You do not need to book a test but may need to stay off and seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as usual.**

Water bottles

Please ensure you send your child into school with their own, labelled water bottle. The weather will be warmer next week and the children will need access to their own water whilst in the classrooms.

Home learning and messages from class teachers

Homelearning and messages from class teachers, including PE days, will be posted on Itslearning over the next couple of weeks. We are still waiting for Itslearning to update but it should be ready to use next week.

If you have any questions regarding your child's class or would like to pass on a message to their teacher, please email info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk and your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

PE kits

On the day your child has PE, they should come to school wearing their PE kit. Currently all PE lessons will take place outside. A suitable PE kit will include:

- Shorts or tracksuit bottoms/ leggings
- T-shirt
- Jumper or Zip-up top
- Trainers or plimsolls

After school clubs and music lessons

We will not be running after school clubs or individual music lessons at the present time. We will continue to review these extracurricular activities and re-introduce them when we are able to do so safely.

School dinners

Parents/carers of pupils **from Year 3 upwards** will need to pay for their child's meal unless you qualify for the Free School Meals grant. To apply for the grant, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> as soon as possible or contact the school office for further information.

Parents/carers of children in Year 3 upwards who choose for their child to have a school dinner must ensure payment is made through the Arbor parent portal, a week or half term in advance. Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 continue to receive school meals for free, funded by the government's Universal Free School Meals grant.

Wrap around care - Rocks and Pebbles (www.rocksandpebbles.co.uk)

We welcome back Rocks and Pebbles, our breakfast and after school provision, from Monday 14th September. Please be reminded that you **MUST** drop off and collect your child from the main door. Parents/carers will not be able to come into the school building.

School uniform, books bags and clothing

If you would like your child to wear a school jumper or if they need a new book bag, these can be purchased in the playground on a Thursday morning, if it is dry, or on a Thursday afternoon from the office. Uniform can also be bought from www.myclothing.com

We are unable to gather lost clothing any more and therefore can we please remind you to label your child's jumpers, cardigans and coats so that we can endeavour to get them back to their owner.

Children's end of year reports - Summer 2020

If you were unable to collect your child's end of year report in July, please note that these can be collected from the main playground on Thursday 17th September.

Year 6 parents/carers – secondary school transfer information

As you know, this is your child's last year in primary school and therefore you will need to start to think about which school you would like them to attend in September 2021. Today we will be sending you a letter and booklet giving detailed information on the application process.

Parents and carers can sign up to receive weekly emails about the secondary school admissions process using the following link: <https://r1.dotmailer-surveys.com/d7402e3-404ptedd>

It is looking unlikely that open days will happen as usual. Some schools are already planning virtual tours and online presentations. Lewisham have created a web page for you to access all the current information and up to date information:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-secondary-school/secondary-schools-open-days>

The closing date for applying for secondary schools is 31st October 2020.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

The Senior Leadership Team
Brindishe Green