



Newsletter

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are absolutely delighted with the fantastic start the children have made since returning in September, and we have loved seeing the children so happy in school—enjoying their learning, working hard and having a fantastic time with their friends once more. The children have adapted well to the new systems and there is a very purposeful atmosphere in school. We have been especially impressed with the children's attitude and enthusiasm. The present situation in regards to the coronavirus pandemic is a very difficult time for us all, and if you or your child have any anxieties regarding this or have been affected in any way, then please do inform a member of the senior leadership team.

We are delighted that Miss Horton has joined our leadership team and will be working as a deputy headteacher alongside Mrs Turnbull. These are the days each member of SLT will be working.

Role	Name	Days
Executive Headteacher	Gregory Doey	Monday and Tuesday
Headteacher	Julie Ireland	Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
Deputy Headteacher	Alex Turnbull	Monday, Thursday and Friday
Deputy Headteacher	Georgia Horton	Tuesday and Wednesday
Inclusion manager and SENCo	Ann-Marie Gittens Obika	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Safety Measures

The school has worked incredibly hard to put a system of control in place as a response to the covid-19 situation. Some parents have asked me about staff mixing, and I would like to reassure you that staff contact is minimised and staff maintain social distancing from each other. Each class (including their teacher) is in a "class bubble" and to protect the bubble, are kept separately from the rest of the school. This is a summary of the systems we have put into place

- Staggered start, finish, break and lunch times
- Only two classes are in the hall at one time and they are in two separate and distinct zones facing away from each other.
- From Y2 upwards, children sit in pairs or rows, sitting side to side and facing the front. Pupils also sit side by side during lunch to reduce any face to face contact.
- Each class has their own playground equipment which is not shared with anyone else
- Minimal contact between staff members including a limit on the number of staff in communal areas such as staff rooms
- Virtual assemblies and virtual staff meetings
- Each child has their own stationery pack from Y1 upwards
- Frequent hand cleaning throughout the day
- Enhanced cleaning
- Staff maintain a distance of 2m from children where possible and from other staff members
- Children (particularly older children) maintain social distancing from staff members and each other
- KS2 classes use separate staircases
- A one way system for moving around the school
- A limit of one child in the toilet at any time

Coronavirus symptoms

If your child or household member is displaying symptoms of coronavirus, you **MUST** not enter the school premises. Instead phone 111 for advice. The main symptoms are

-High temperature -persistent cough -loss of taste -loss of smell

Collection and drop off times

Thankyou very much with your support and cooperation when dropping off and collecting your child, Please can you ensure that when waiting to collect your child, you and your family maintain social distancing from other families. Where possible, we ask that only one parent comes to collect and drop off their child to reduce the number of people at the gates. Many thanks for your support with this.

Breakfast club and after school club

We have reopened breakfast club and after school club. The cost of breakfast club is a reduced rate of £1 per child per day and runs from 7.45 a.m. We have also reduced the rate of after school club, and this is now £5 per child per day and runs until 6 p.m. If you wish to use breakfast club or after school club, please prebook with the office. Payment is made through Parentpay. In both breakfast club and after school club, pupils will remain within their class bubbles and social distancing rules will apply.

Home reading books

In following DFE guidelines, we now have to quarantine any reading books sent home on their return for 48 hours before reissuing. Therefore, we will be reducing how often we change and send home reading books. Your child's class teacher is currently implementing a system for home reading and will let you know which days your child needs to bring in their reading book to be changed.

P.E kits and water bottles

As you are aware, we are asking children to come into school in their P.E kits on the days they have P.E.

Year 1— Tuesday and Friday

Year 2—Tuesday and Friday

Year 3—Thursday and Friday

Year 4 Pine (Miss Chantrey's class) - Tuesday and Thursday

Year 4 Willow (Miss Lincoln's class) - Tuesday and Thursday

Year 5—Wednesday and Friday

Year 6—Monday and Friday

We have also asked that children bring in a labelled water bottle to access water during the day as the water fountains have been closed off. These need to be taken home at the end of each day and then returned the following morning. In order to protect the environment, we ask that you do not send in single-use plastic bottles. Instead, please send in reusable bottles.

Notice for drivers

I have mentioned this in previous newsletters—when waiting in your car to collect your child, please **do not** leave your engine running (this is known as idling.) By taking this simple action, you will be creating a healthier environment for your child. You may also be issued with an £80 penalty notice charge notice from Southwark enforcement officer. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

Safeguarding

As you would expect, safeguarding your children is our first priority here at Bellenden. We have a safeguarding policy that can be found on our website or, alternatively, you can speak to Emma-Jayne or Susan if you would like to obtain a hard copy of the policy.