

**Albert Bradbeer Primary Academy**

Turves Green

Longbridge

Birmingham

B31 4RD

Tel: (0121) 464 3256

Email: [enquiry@albertbradbeer.uwmat.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@albertbradbeer.uwmat.co.uk)

Website: [www.abprimary.bham.sch.uk](http://www.abprimary.bham.sch.uk)

Head of School: Mr. D. Mann

Executive Head: Mr. C Chambers

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians.

Finally the sunny weather seems to have broken through, although the next couple of weeks looks a little damp!

The Government has indicated that there will be a four-week delay in the roadmap out of the Pandemic. Whilst this may raise people's anxieties, I wanted to reassure all parents that school will maintain the highest health and safety elements for all the children, parents and staff in school. Below are some of the measures that we are asking all children, staff and parents to maintain until the end of this half-term. In addition, there is some information concerning some key events at the end of this academic year, and preparation for the new academic year starting in September 2021.

**Children showing signs of illness**- We all still have to remain vigilant about the symptoms of Covid-19, especially as the new delta variant is up to 40% more transmissible than the previous Alpha strain (which was more transmissible than the original strain!). If any child is showing a sign of a cough, high temperature, or loss of taste, then these children must self-isolate until a negative covid-19 test is received. The government has also indicated that the most common symptoms for the delta variant are headaches, sore throats and runny noses. If unsure, please get the children tested. Any siblings are fine to continue attending as long as the test is negative.

If a child, (or any person in the household) receives a positive test result, then everyone in the household must self-isolate for a period of at least 10 days. Please inform school if any adult or child receives a positive test.

If a child in a bubble is tested positive, it may be that we need to isolate either the whole class or the whole bubble depending on the advice from Public Health England. All this information will be sent to the children and families affected by the decision when taken.

If a child is self-isolating, and is not showing symptoms, then any siblings can continue to attend. It is only if a child develops symptoms and tests positive that all the family need to self-isolate.

**Cleanliness and Hygiene**- The current procedures for extra-cleaning in school will continue. The children will also continue to be asked to wash their hands more often, especially on entering and exiting the building.

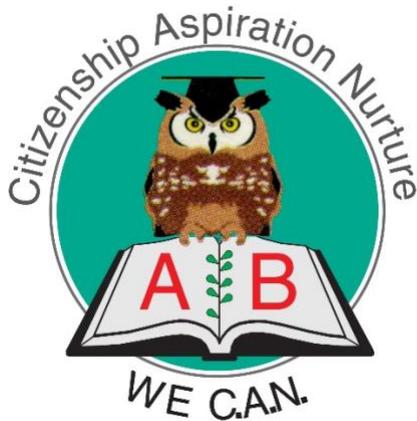
**Face Masks**- We understand that all parents are outside where it is safer to be, but unfortunately there has been a significant drop in the amount of parents who are wearing face-masks on the school grounds. The guidance still remains that all adults should be wearing face-masks when either dropping off or picking up their children from school.



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The staff in school will continue to wear their facemasks in all communal areas of the school (corridors and staff room etc). The children are not expected to wear face masks at any time on the school grounds.

**Staggered start and finish times-** The current staggered start and finish times for all children will remain for the rest of this half-term. Please see the website for the times for all the different year groups. Please try and ensure you stick to these admission times, as they are designed to ensure as much social distancing on the school grounds as possible. Please also remember that school still has a one-way system where all the lower Longbridge Lane gate being used as an entrance for KS2 children only, and the upper Longbridge Lane gate being used as an exit only. The main entrance onto Turves Green remains a two-way gate.

**School Dinners-** The children will continue to have their dinners within their own classroom until the end-of-term. The children order their dinners during the morning registration and have it delivered to them to eat within the classroom with either the class Teacher or TA.

**Social Distancing-** The children will remain in Year-group bubbles and will not be able to mix with children from different year groups. They will continue having break-time and lunchtimes together outside, with some joint activities taking place between the two classes in each bubble (three classes in Year 5). The children are still encouraged to keep their distance where possible.

**School uniform and PE Kits-** Whilst we are encouraging all the children to wear the correct school uniform every day, we do understand the current difficulty in purchasing both uniform and the best PE kits. If you are having any difficulty with uniform, then please contact either the main school office, or message your class teacher through MCAS.

We will continue the procedure of children being able to wear their PE kits on the days when they scheduled to have PE lessons. Please try at all times to keep to the guidance on PE kits. This includes not sending children into school with any football emblems or football shirts. The guidance is for the children to wear a plain white t-shirt if possible.

**Contacting class teachers or the main office-** It is still the procedure that all parents should only be talking directly to the main office or staff in an emergency. All other communications should be completed through the Parental MCAS app. MCAS allows you to directly contact all staff, book and pay for Berties (Before and After-school provision) as well as pay for school tuck and school dinners. If you are having difficulty accessing MCAS, then please contact the main school office for us to assist.

**Parents Evening-** Unfortunately, the parental meetings for the end-of-the-school year review will not be able to take place on school grounds, but will happen by phone call for all year groups. We are sorry to have to take this measure, but the guidelines for social distancing must be adhered to. Due to the difficulty in arranging these calls on just one or



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two days, we will be sending out the format for this in detail next week. We will be sending out all the children's reports on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July.

**Sports Day-** Again, this will continue to happen in school, but will be based on year group competitions at separate times to other school years. We are sorry to announce that again, no parents will be able to attend this event. Individual year groups will contact parents to indicate when their year-group Sports day will be, so that the children will wear their PE kits for that day.

**Transition Day-** Birmingham Council have already informed us that the Year 6 children will have a virtual transition again this year, and that they will not be visiting their new schools on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July. Unfortunately, we do not yet know what all the Secondary schools are planning for this or another date. At this moment, Year 6 children are expected to attend Albert Bradbeer on this day.

In school, we will continue to have our "Moving on up" day and the children will meet their new class teachers on this date. The children will spend the morning with their new teacher before returning to their current class in the afternoon. The full list of staff placements will be released to parents on this day.

**Assessment-** Although there are no statutory tests for the children this year. We feel it is prudent to ensure the children have the opportunity to gain the experience of some of these tests in a very informal manner. The results will not be reported to the Local Authority, but will only be used for internal information in assessing the children's next steps and to identify areas of misconceptions or gaps in the curriculum. The following informal tests will still occur.

Year 1- A mock phonics test will occur on an individual basis for all the children. This will allow us to set up more accurate groups for September for Phonics and prepare the children for a possible statutory test in December (as there was this academic year.)

Year 4- Mock Multiplication Tables Check. The children have been working hard on learning their multiplication tables and this on-line mock test only takes 15 minutes. Each child will have multiple practices over the next two weeks before completing one final test before the end of term.

All year groups may have small mock tests as per normal at the end of the academic years. These are to help inform Teacher assessments. They will be done in an informal way, where great consideration will be given to the mental wellbeing of the children.

**Class re-organisations-** Some of the current year group will be re-organised for September and the children moved between the different classes for the next academic year. Throughout the pandemic, the children have missed lots of schooling over the last two academic years, and this is an additional reason for the changes, as well as the ones listed



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below. The re-organisation will affect the following Year groups, with the children finding out their new classes on the transition day planned above

Reception Classes into Year 1.

Although we have two Reception classes in school, the whole of Reception work across the different rooms in in the EYFS building with all the staff. As the children move into Year 1, they will be organised into two classes where there are:

- Equal amounts of boys and girls in each class
- Equal amounts of children who currently have an additional educational need
- Equal amounts of children across the academic spectrum.
- Equal amounts of children from all our rich and diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds.
- Consideration for friendship groups

Year 2 into Year 3

Again, the same reasoning as above. As the children have developed over the last two years with children leaving and others joining, the classes need to be re-aligned to ensure that the classes remain on a par as they enter the junior element of their education.

Year 5 into Year 6.

The year group will remain as three classes, each with approximately 20 children in them. Again, due to some children leaving and others joining, the classes will be re-set. In addition from September, the children in Year 6 will be set for both Maths and English lessons in the morning before returning to their own classes in the afternoon. This is to provide a more specialised level of work which will challenge and support the children at their own levels. This year group will continue to receive extra adult support.

**Curriculum Promise-** the reviewed Curriculum Promise will be released before the end of this half-term ready for its renewed start in September 2021. This will allow all parents to see the additional elements to the curriculum that school is providing to help the children in all aspects of their development, not just their academic achievement.

I understand that this is a lot of information, but I want to keep all parents up-to-date with all information from school. Please do not contact school about any elements for next academic year, or about the transition arrangements, as more information will be released on all these events. If you have any specific enquiries about your child, or arrangements for this half-term. Please do not hesitate to contact school through your class teacher or main office.

Best wishes

Darren Mann



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