



September 2020

BUCKLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Believe, Excel, Strive, Together

Attendance Newsletter

Every Child Matters and Every Day Counts!

Welcome back – we have missed you!

As we all know going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Children learn new things when they are in school every day – missing school risks pupils falling further behind. The last few months have been a huge challenge for school staff and parents, with staff arranging home education for all families who then took on a new role of supporting their child at home.

Firstly we would like to say thank you for all your support with regard to your child's home education, we enjoyed seeing some of the activities the children got up to during lockdown.

During the summer, the Government announced that all children were expected to return to school in September and that whilst the legislation around school attendance was relaxed from 20th March 2020 when schools were closed, it is now mandatory for all pupils to attend school.

Going forward I am sure you will agree that as a community we still have some challenges to face in the coming months with the Coronavirus pandemic. However we are working hard at school to ensure the children are able to catch up on their missed learning and will be able to progress in their learning and achieve their BEST.

Our expectation in line with our attendance policy is that all children attend school every day i.e. 100% attendance. We are aware that during this time there may be an occasion where your child and family may be expected to self isolate and families MUST do this if the need arises.

HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME – FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

We would also like to remind parents that we do not authorise any holidays during term time and if you take your child out of school for a holiday that you may be liable for a Fixed Penalty notice. We are aware that many families either had to cancel or postpone holidays due to Covid-19 however this will not count as an "exceptional circumstance" as there are many families (and staff!) who are in exactly the same situation.

As your child has already missed over a term of school in their last academic year we are very keen for all children to be in school every day. If for any reason your child is going to be absent (other than being unwell) then please complete a "Request for absence form" which can be downloaded from our website. If you would like to see a full copy of our Attendance Policy, this can also be downloaded from the school website.

There is also some information on the Surrey County council website – please click on the links below:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/at-school/attendance-and-absence>

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/at-school/attendance-and-absence/legal-processes-used-to-enforce-school-attendance-guidance-for-parents>





**If your child has:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of
smell or taste**

**This could be a sign of
coronavirus**

Book a test

**If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell
But they don't have:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste**

**These are
not normally symptoms of
coronavirus**

**Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial
111 or see your GP**