



BUCKLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Believe, Excel, Strive, Together

Welfare Newsletter

November 2021

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ THIS NEWSLETTER – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

As we come into the winter season we are well aware of the many coughs and colds that come hand in hand with the colder, darker months. We are also acutely aware of the ongoing situation with the Coronavirus. We have and will continue to send information out to parents as we receive updated guidance from the Department of Education.

However, we want to work with you to ensure that your child's learning is not affected by low attendance. If your child is suffering from a cold then we would like to encourage you to bring them into school and just have a quick word with Mrs Brown our Welfare Assistant or your child's class teacher so that we can keep an eye on them during the day. You would be surprised how many children "bounce back" once they are in school and with their friends. However if they don't "bounce back" then we will give you a call and arrange for you to come and collect them.

Coronavirus

If your child is displaying any of the recognised Coronavirus symptoms we would ask that you get advice from your doctors or by calling 119 – the Covid line. Please follow the advice given by the medical profession and then contact school to keep us updated of the reason for your child's absence.

Many families are regularly testing using the Lateral Flow devices and we would encourage families to continue to do this where possible. Clearly if your child tests positive on a Lateral Flow test then please arrange for them to have a PCR test. We would also ask that you keep school informed at each step as well please.



If you are not already doing LFT's as a family twice a week we would really encourage you to do so. The test kits are readily available to order online or can be collected from some pharmacies and test centres. Please follow this link for more detailed information
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

If someone in your household tests positive and you are double vaccinated, medically exempt or under the age of 18 then you are not required to self isolate. This does mean if you have more than 1 child at school only the child that tests positive will need to remain at home, however the advice is to continue to do LFT with the rest of the family on a daily basis.

General Illness

If you are ever in any doubt about whether you should send your child into school or not then please either contact the school office in the morning or bring them in and we will keep an eye on them and contact you if they are not coping with the day.

Support for Families

We are also very conscious that this year has continued to be very difficult for our families for a number of reasons and whether the pandemic has affected your family on a financial level, emotional wellbeing level or in some other way, we want you to know that we are here to support you as much as possible.

At school we are informed of local and national initiatives that are offering support for families and we will ensure that parents are always informed of these as and when applicable. We are also aware that some families may be embarrassed or worried that if you ask for support that the children will be singled out in some way. Please can we assure you that this is not the case. Marie Lucas-Caller and Emma Hawthorn are available during the day for you to speak with privately by calling through to the school office or emailing into school asking for a call back.

Financial Support for those facing hardship

Information for Surrey residents who may be facing financial hardship and the support Surrey-wide pledge to provide.

Our message during these hard times is clear: if you are struggling or feel that you are unable to make ends meet, Surrey councils are here and continuing to support you and your communities through these unprecedented times. We have a dedicated helpline that residents who are struggling and in need of support can call and someone will be able to get them the help they need. In addition, all the latest information can also be found on our [Surrey CC Coronavirus Financial support help page](#) because we recognise the vital role councils have to play in the present times.

Community Helpline number: 0300 200 1008

Availability Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm

SMS: 0786 0053 465 for Deaf and hearing impaired residents only (Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm)

If you are struggling financially and you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals then you can download a form from our website which you just need to complete and return to the school office. We will run some checks and then confirm if you are eligible for these meals. Even if your child does not want to eat the school meals and you continue to provide a packed lunch, knowing that you are entitled means the school can claim some extra funding which we can put towards additional education support if required and can also be used to help cover costs of school trips and workshops.



Emotional and Wellbeing support

This has been and continues to be a difficult time for many people and we want to be able to support our families, however if we are not aware of the situations that our families are coping with, we are unable to put support in place. If you or your child are struggling with your overall wellbeing or anything else that is currently impacting you as a family and you feel that you need some extra support please come and speak with Emma or Marie and we will be able to signpost you to services that are able to support you further.