

# BRONTË HOUSE

Parental Guide – September 2020

#### **Dear Parents**

I do hope that this communication finds you and your families well and that the children are beginning to look forward to the impending return to school.

The purpose of this Guide is to provide parents with some clarity on the modifications to School routines as we continue to prepare for a full re-opening next week. Over the course of the summer break, staff have been working hard to re-organise classrooms and plan activities to ensure that we are fully compliant with the Government's statutory requirements: 'Guidance for full opening: schools'. We have a full risk assessment in place and all activities and practices on the School site must comply with the agreed control measures. This has led to some significant amendments to the internal workings of the School, as you will see as you read on. All of the changes made are with the health, safety and wellbeing of the School community at heart. Though it has been necessary to adapt our practices to the current circumstances, we hope you will agree that the quality of the provision remains high and the opportunities broad.

The changes made are under constant review, pending further advice from the Government as both the national and local situations continue to evolve. As we settle into September, we may make further tweaks to benefit the children and, in this case, we will inform you in advance.

Please read through the following pages carefully. We have included, what we hope is, all of the necessary information to begin the new year. If there is anything additional that you would like to know, please email Mr Cooper and we will address any concerns or queries that you may have: <a href="mailto:cooper.o@woodhousegrove.co.uk">cooper.o@woodhousegrove.co.uk</a>

At the end of this document is a Parental Agreement and a link to Survey Monkey. There are several pieces of information that we need to collect from you to assist us with ongoing risk assessments and we are also asking for your assistance in keeping children safe at school by complying with a number of requests. Please don't be offended if staff remind you of these in the coming weeks as we work together to keep your children as safe as possible.

After such an extended break, we are hugely excited about being able to open our doors again and we look forward to welcoming you back to Brontë in the coming days.

With very best wishes,

S. Chattertan

Sarah Chatterton

Head, Brontë House

### **CONTENTS PAGE**

Staff	Page 4
Year Group Bubbles	Page 6
Timings of the Day	Page 7
The Morning Routine	Page 8
The End of the Day	Page 10
School Buses	Page 13
Daily Routines	Page 14
Meal Times	Page 15
Uniform and Equipment	Page 16
Communication	Page 19
Teaching and Learning	Page 20
Sport and Performing Arts	Page 22
Keeping Safe (including dealing with a possible case of Covid 19)	Page 23
Parental Agreement	Page 25

#### **STAFF**

We are very pleased to be welcoming several new staff to Brontë House this term; a returning member of staff and some who are moving to new roles.



#### Mrs Gifford – Director of Teaching and Learning and Year 5 Teacher

Mrs Gifford joins us from the Grammar School at Leeds and we are very pleased to welcome her to Brontë as the curriculum leader and new member of the Senior Management Team.



#### Mr Moorhouse – Year 4 Teacher

After initially joining Brontë House as a volunteer in 2015, we are incredibly proud to say that Mr Moorhouse has just received a First Class honours degree in Education! Mr Moorhouse is very excited to be joining the Year 4 team.



#### Mr King – Director of Sport

Now that Mr Bedford has taken on more responsibility for coaching sport at the Grove, Mr King, who is already Director of Sport at Woodhouse Grove, has assumed responsibility for the PE and Games curriculum across the whole school.



#### Mr Waterhouse – PE Department

We are delighted that, from September, Mr Waterhouse will become a fulltime member of Brontë House PE staff.



#### Mrs Pinkney – Year 5 Teaching Assistant

Unfortunately, Mrs Mac isn't well enough to return to school in September. Mrs Sugden, who was teaching in Year 2 last year, will be replacing Mrs Mac in Year 5 until she feels well enough to return. Mrs Pinkney will be assisting Mrs Sugden and Mrs Gifford in Year 5.



Miss Campbell – Year 2 Teacher

Miss Campbell is returning from maternity leave and looking forward to welcoming 2H to school.



Mr Nicholls - PE/Games Teacher

Unfortunately, Ms Stega requires further knee surgery in September and Mr Nicholls will be covering Ms Stega's teaching and duties until half term.

We also have some new Office staff joining us in the coming weeks. We will send further confirmation once the recruitment processes are concluded.

#### YEAR GROUP BUBBLES

Each of the Year groups, from Pre-Nursery to Year 6, are operating as separate bubbles. This is a preventative measure to decrease the likelihood of widespread infection should a member of staff or child in a particular bubble test positive for Covid 19. Children in different classes but in the same year group are considered to be in the same bubble and mixing is acceptable in maths sets and on the playground, though we will try to instill a sense of distancing, particularly with older children.

Children will remain in their year group bubbles for all aspects of the School day: Pre and After-School Care, including all extra-curricular activities and Prep; academic curriculum time, PE/Games and all break and meal times.

Every effort has been made to ensure that children in different bubbles will not mix whilst they are on the School site. With this in mind, the following list, which is not exhaustive, details the measures that have been put in place through the bubble structure:

- Colour coded year-group zones around school with floor and wall markers for the children to follow
- Separate entrances and exits to school (as far as possible)
- Staggered lesson, break and meal-times to alleviate congestion around school
- One-way systems are in operation
- No shared resources between year groups
- Designated bubble bathrooms and cloakrooms
- Designated bubble staff with limited movement of staff
- Children supervised as they move between lessons by a member of staff

All members of staff have been allocated to a bubble. We have limited specialist teaching initially; this in order for class teachers to remain consistently in the same bubble. For the small number of staff that do move between bubbles, strict protocols are in place.

Year Group/	Class Teachers	Additional Bubble Staff	Teaching Assistants
Bubble			
Year 1	Mrs Abbott, Mrs Defurey,		Miss Whitby-Eccles, Mrs
	Miss La Via		Lawrance, Mrs Kauser
Year 2	Miss Campbell, Mrs Small	Mr Waterhouse*	Mrs Bader, Mrs Downes,
			Mrs Myers
Year 3	Mrs Simpson, Mr Marshall	Miss Bell, Mrs Chatterton*	Miss Broscombe
Year 4	Mrs Downs, Mrs Ellershaw*	Mr Moorhouse, Mr Nicholls	Miss Bland
Year 5	Mrs Gifford, Mrs Sugden (in place of Mrs Mac)	Mr Phenny*, Mrs Couzens*	Mrs Malir, Mrs Pinkney
Year 6	Ms Pearson, Mr Graham, Mrs Rayner		Mrs Riley, Mrs O'Grady

<sup>\*</sup>indicates staff who work in more than one bubble

#### **TIMINGS OF THE DAY**

School will continue to open at 7:30am for those that wish to access Pre-School Care and Breakfast. Children may arrive at any point from 7:30am – 8:25am and registration will take place at 8:30am.

The timings at the close of the day have been amended slightly to incorporate a staggered end to the School day. Not only does this assist with car parking and traffic flow but it also varies the timings of lessons for Years 1-6 which impacts on break and lunch timings and creates space on the playgrounds to ensure that year group bubbles are kept separate.

#### Please see below:

Ashdown Lodge	3:30pm
Years 1 and 2	3:15pm
Years 3 and 4	3:30pm
Years 5 and 6	3:45pm

#### THE MORNING ROUTINE

When you arrive at school in the morning, between 7.30 and 8.30am, please park in the bottom car park.

If your child is in Year 1 or 2 and, initially, Year 3, we ask that you accompany them to the main front door of the school building (red door). If your child is in Years 4 - 6, they should walk from the car-park independently, up to school. Please ensure that you observe your child entering the school building before you leave the site.

A one-way system is in operation from the car park. As you look up at the School from the car park, please walk up the right-hand path next to the Sports Hall. Parents with children in Years 1-3 will then need to turn left and walk along the top of the terrace where a member of staff will meet you at the main front door to supervise and direct the children to their classroom, where breakfast will be served between 7:30am – 8am. Please note that, under the terms of our risk assessment, no parents are allowed within the school buildings without prior agreement of the Head. Parents should then walk back down to the car-park via the steps next to the road. Markers have been placed on the floor to encourage social distancing at all times.

If your child is in Year 4, they should walk up the steps next to the Sports Hall and turn right on the terrace, entering the Greenwood building via the left door where they will find their named peg in the Greenwood cloakroom. They should hang their coat and bag on their peg and then go directly to Mrs Down's classroom on the top floor of the Greenwood building (G5). When they reach the classroom, they should wash their hands in the sink before sitting down in their allocated seats. Breakfast will be served in Mrs Down's room between 7.30 and 8am.

If your child is in Year 5, they should walk up the steps from the car park and then turn right and wash their hands in the newly installed outdoor sinks at the bottom of the Sports Hall. They should then walk up the steps next to the Sports Hall, turn right on the terrace and move to their cloakroom outside the Sports Hall. (This used to belong to Year 1 and 2) They should find their named peg, hang their coat and bag on their peg. Before 8am, they should use the external door at the side of the Library to enter the School and go directly to the Science Lab. Breakfast will be served in the Science Lab between 7.30 and 8am. After 8am, once they have washed their hands in the outdoor sink, children in Mrs Gifford's class should enter school through the gate at the side of their cloakroom and go directly to Mrs Gifford's classroom (Portacabin). Children in Mrs Sugden's class should continue to use the Library door and go directly to the Science Lab.

If your child is in Year 6, they should enter the Greenwood building via the right door, walk through the Greenwood building, up the stairs and turn right through the door towards the Dining Room and then head to the large cloakroom behind the Dining Room. Your child should find their named peg, hang up their coat and bag and then wash their hands in the cloakroom toilets. They should then go into the Dining Room through the top door of the cloakroom.

Breakfast will be served in the Dining Room between 7.30 and 8 am. Children arriving after 8am, should follow the same procedure as above.

This sounds very complicated but doors and routes through school have been labelled and all staff will be on site from 7:30am to assist with the morning routine until the new procedures become embedded.

Whilst we can accommodate a child who is unexpectedly late on occasion, we do have a significant number of families who are late to arrive at school on a persistent basis. Due to the restricted movements of children and staff around the School and the increased difficulty in relaying information, we need to ask for a concerted effort from all parents to ensure that children arrive at school on time and your help in this is appreciated.

#### **Late Arrivals**

Children who arrive after 8:30am MUST be brought to the main Office door; however, parents are not permitted to enter at this time. It is imperative that late children DO NOT enter the building using their usual entry point as other bubbles may be moving around at this point, which could lead to cross-contamination of bubbles. Once in the Office, children will then be escorted to their classroom by a member of Office staff who will need to wear PPE.

#### **Reporting Absence**

If your child is absent due to illness, please report this at the following email address:

absence@brontehouse.co.uk

#### THE END OF THE DAY

For children in Years 1-6, the time between the end of the School day and 6pm will comprise 4 different elements:

- Co-Curricular Activity
- Outside Playtime
- Tea
- Prep

For each Year group bubble, these will take place at different times to ensure that the children remain separate.

For the moment, we have taken the decision to only provide co-curricular activities run by Brontë House staff. This is in order to prevent any increased risk of infection from external providers who teach in multiple settings. Every day, after school, an activity will be run by a member of staff within your child's bubble. All children who remain in school past the end of the school day will participate in this activity. There will be no option for children in After School Care to 'opt out' of the year group's activity for that day and, for this reason, you will not be required to 'sign up' for Co-Curricular activities in the usual way.

In order to provide full wrap-around care in year group bubbles, we have increased from the usual 3 bubbles of children to running 9 separate bubbles every morning and evening which means that the duty allocation for all staff is hugely increased and impacts on their ability to provide additional activities. Whilst we appreciate that we are unable to offer a full programme at this time, we are sure that the children will enjoy the range of activities available throughout the week.

The schedule of after school activities is as follows:

	YEARS 1&2													
16.0	1515-1600 ACTIVITY/CLUB 16.00-16.20 PLAY OUT													
	16.20 - 1700 TEA IN CLASSROOM & STORY TIME 17.00-18.00 PREP / PLAY													
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri									
Y1	LEGO	DRAWING	SEWING	LET'S	FILM									
140	CLUB CLUB CLUB CREATE CLUB													
Y2	Y2 CONSTRUCTION BOARD DRAWING FILM BALL													
	CLUB	GAMES	CLUB	CLUB	GAMES									

#### Year 1 and 2

If your child is in Year 1 or 2, their school day finishes at 3.15pm. Children who have specified that they will be collected straight away, will be taken to the playground and can be signed out from the member of staff on duty between 3.15 and 3.30pm.

Children who have not stated they are going home immediately at the end of the school day, will remain in the school building, participating in the after-school activity for that day.

At 4pm the children will finish their activity and go out to play until 4.20pm. If you wish to collect your child during this period, sign your child out with the member of staff on duty in the playground.

At 4.20pm the children will return to their classroom where they will be served tea until 4.40pm. From 4.40pm - 5pm will be story time. 5pm - 6pm will be prep/play time in the classrooms. If you wish to collect your child between 4.20 and 5pm, you must approach a member of staff on the playground and ask them to radio through for your child to be sent to meet you at the main front door (red) of school. From 5pm, a member of staff will be located outside the main front door to assist you.

	YEARS 3&4														
1530-16	1530-1620 ACTIVITY/CLUB														
16.20-1	6.40 PLAY OUT														
16.40-1	7.00 TEA														
17.00-1	8.00 PREP/PLA	Υ													
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri										
Y3	BOARD	MULTISPORTS	DARTS AND DOMS	ART	FILM										
	GAMES			CLUB	CLUB										
Y4	BOARD	LET'S	OUTDOOR	MULTISPORTS	DARTS AND DOMS										
	GAMES	CREATE	EXPLORERS												

#### Year 3 and 4

If your child is in Year 3 or 4, their school day finishes at 3.30pm. Children who have specified that they will be collected straight away, will be taken to the playground and can be signed out from the member of staff on duty as normal, between 3.30 and 3.45pm.

Children who have stated that they are not going home immediately, at the end of the school day, will remain in the school building, participating in the after-school activity for that day. In the event that you need to collect your child during this period, you can approach a member of staff on the playground, who will radio through for your child to be sent outside to meet you.

At 4.20pm, the children will finish their activity and go out to play until 4.40pm. If you wish to collect your child during this period, sign out with the member of staff on duty in the playground.

At 4.40pm, the children will return to the school building for tea in the Dining Room and we politely request that you do not collect your child during the tea period 4.40 - 5pm. In an emergency, if you need to collect your child during this period, approach the member of staff outside in the playground who will radio through and your child will be sent to meet you on the playground and will sign out there.

5pm -6pm will be Prep in classrooms. If you wish to collect your child between 5pm and 6pm, you must approach the member of staff outside the main front door of school. They will radio through for your child to collect their belongings and meet you at the front door of school.

	YEARS 5&6												
15.45-1	15.45-1640 ACTIVITY/CLUB												
16.40- 1	16.40- 17.00 PLAY OUT												
17.00-1	8.00 TEA FOLLO	WED BY PREP											
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri								
Y5	COMPUTER	FITNESS	MULTISPORTS	LET'S	FILM								
	CLUB CREATE CLUB												
Y6	MULTISPORTS	COMPUTER	ART	BOARD	FILM								
		CLUB	CLUB	GAMES	CLUB								

#### Year 5 and 6

If your child is in Year 5 or 6, their school day finishes at 3.45pm. Children who have specified that they will be collected straight away, will be taken to the playground and can be signed out from the member of staff on duty, as normal, between 3.45 and 4pm. At 4pm the children will be taken back inside to join their bubble.

Children who have stated that they are not going home immediately, at the end of the school day, will remain in the school building, participating in the after-school activity for that day. In the event that you need to collect your child during this period, you can approach a member of staff on the playground, who will radio through for your child to be sent outside to meet you.

At 4.40pm, the children will finish their activity and go out to play until 5pm. If you wish to collect your child during this period, sign out with the member of staff on duty, in the playground.

At 5pm, the children will return to the school building for tea and we politely request that you do not collect your child during the tea period 5pm-5.20pm. If you wish to collect your child between 5pm and 6pm, you must approach the member of staff outside the main front door of school. They will radio through for your child to collect their belongings and meet you at the front door of school.

#### **End of the Day Routine**

The same one-way system is in operation after school as in the morning. Parents collecting children straight away must approach the tennis court from the right-hand path from the car park, ensuring that they are appropriately distanced. If a lot of parents are queueing, we would suggest that parents wait in cars for a couple of minutes until the queue has subsided.

Children will be lined up on the tennis court and signed out by the member of staff on duty and parents should then walk with their child along the corridor that has been marked on the tennis court, exiting the large double gates on the left hand-side in order to return to cars.

The same system will be used for all parents collecting between 3:15pm – 5pm. If you are collecting your child after the initial signing out period, please be aware that staff on duty will have to radio through to the Year group bubble for children to be sent down from classrooms so there may be a slight delay.

#### **SCHOOL BUSES**

The school bus service will run as normal. Appropriate control measures are in place and parents will be advised of these when purchasing their child's bus ticket.

Please note, no 'ad-hoc' requests for bus travel will be permitted due to the need for prior understanding of numbers.

Children travelling by bus in the evening may not be able to have tea in school, dependent on their year group and the time allocated for their bubble to use the Dining Room.

Once tickets are purchased and we have an understanding of the children this may affect, a senior member of school staff will arrange a discussion with parents.

#### **DAILY ROUTINES**

Your child will be given a provisional timetable on the first day of school. During the day, the children will consistently remain within their year group bubble and will remain in the same classroom for the majority of their lessons.

We have introduced a stagger to the timetable to ensure that year groups are not mixing unnecessarily throughout the day. This includes staggered lessons, breaks, lunchtimes and finish times to assist with the separation of year group bubbles. To this end, Years 5 and 6 will begin every day with a 'Wake up Workout' session, led by one of our PE staff, as this enables us to begin our staggered day. This will combine some elements of fitness and conditioning exercises. Children are not required to wear PE kit for this if they do not have a curriculum PE lesson on that day.

Please find below a copy of the whole school daily schedule to understand key timings of the day for different year groups.

#### **DAILY SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 2020**

	8.30 - 8.45	8.45 - 9.00	9.00 - 9.15	9.15 - 9.30	9.30 - 9.45	9.45 - 10.00	10.00 -10.15	10.15 - 10.30	10.30 - 10.45		11.00 - 11.15	11.15 - 11.30			12.00 - 12.15		12.30 - 12.45		13.00 - 13.15	13.15 - 13.30	13.30 - 13.45	13.45 - 14.00	14.00 - 14.15	14.15 - 14.30	14.30 - 14.45	14.45 - 15.00	15.00 - 15.15	<u>15.15 -</u> 15.30	15.30 - 15.45	15.45 - 16.00	16.00 - 16.20	16.20 - 16.40	16.40 - 17.00	17.00 - 17.20	17.20 - 18.00
1B 1H 2B 2H	REG	Р	ERIO	D 1		BRE	AK	Р	ERIC	DD 2		L	.UN(	CH		PE	ERIC	D 3		PE	ERIC	)D 4	ļ	Р	ERI	OD	5	Signing out	CL	UB	Play	Tea	Story		Prep
3B 3H 4B 4H	REG	P	ERIO	D 1		Р	ERIC	)D 2		BRE#	ιK	PE	ERIO	D 3			LU	NCH	1		PI	ERIC	DD 4	4		PI	ERIC	)D 5	Signing out	CLU	В	Play	Tea		Prep
5B 5H 6B 6H 6S	w	STRAT & AKE U DRKO	ΙP	F	PERI	OD 1	L	Р	ERIC	DD 2		BRE	ΔK	PE	ERIC	DD 3		L	UN	СН		PI	ERIC	OD 4	4			PERDIOD	5	Signing out	CL	.UB	Play	Tea	Prep

Children in Years 1 and 2 will be sent a weekly tea form home for parents to indicate collection times. Years 3-6 will be asked for this information each morning so please ensure that they understand what time they are going home.

At this time, there will be no whole school assemblies, including Awards Assembly, or whole school events, as we need to consider the safety of all of our children and staff. Our main priority is to keep the bubbles in separate areas of the school and therefore meeting as a whole school in any circumstance is not possible. Individual year groups may hold their own assemblies and there will be a virtual assembly each week from a member of the Senior Management Team, which will include house point awards. Good Work Awards will continue and these will be presented in classes each week.

#### **MEAL TIMES**

Children will continue to enjoy breakfast, lunch and tea in school. Breakfast will be served in Year group bubbles from 7.30am until 8am. We are unable to provide the usual offering of cereal and toast so this will take the form of pre-packaged fingers foods such as cereal bars, croissants and fruit.

Lunches will also be served in Year group bubbles. For Years 1 and 2, this will mean an early lunch each day at 11:15am in the Dining Room. Years 1 and 2 will be served a hot lunch every day.

Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 will be served lunch at approximately 12:45pm and this will alternate between hot lunch served in the Dining Room and a picnic lunch served either in the classroom or outside, weather permitting. This is necessary as we are unable to serve lunch to all of the children in key stage two in the Dining Room each day and ensure sufficient cleaning time between sittings.

Tea will also be served in Year group bubbles. Years 1 and 2 will receive a sandwich tea in classrooms each evening and Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 will be served a hot tea in the Dining Room on the days when they received a picnic lunch.

Children must continue to 'book' their place in tea each evening by informing their class teacher of their intention to stay in school during Registration each morning.

Children may still bring a snack from home of fresh fruit or vegetables.

#### **UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT**

The opening hours for the School shop, based at Woodhouse Grove, can be found on the School website. They have been operating a pre-bookable appointment system but no appointments are required on a Friday. Additionally, it is possible to order uniform direct from the supplier on the Monkhouses website.

We are aware that several items of the new Gilbert PE kit are currently out of stock but we have been reassured that supplies will be replenished this week.

The ABA are also keen to support families with 'Pre-Loved' items of uniform available on the Year group WhatsApp sites.

Children will be required to wear their School PE kit on the days that they have PE/Games. For boys, this means their Gilbert shorts and either Rugby shirt or PE top; for girls, this means the Gilbert skort and corresponding PE top. The School Gilbert tracksuit, consisting of fleece and tracksuit bottoms, should be worn over the top to ensure that legs are covered during lesson times. If the weather becomes warm in the coming weeks, we will make a whole school decision to remove tracksuits to ensure the children remain comfortable.

For children in Years 3-6, the tracksuit should be removed for Games lessons and then put back on at the end of the day, before going home.

Families who have not been able to purchase the new, Gilbert kit do not need to be concerned. Whilst we had hoped to have made a full transition to the new kit in September, as the children are wearing their kit more than usual at the moment, it seems sensible to keep the old kit in reserve, to assist with laundry.

On all other days, children should wear their full school uniform. Summer uniform may be worn until October half term.

Please see the table overleaf for details of your child's uniform requirements each day.

DAYS WHEN CHILDREN WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN CURRICULUM SPORTS AND PE KIT MUST BE WORN												
CLASS	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY							
1B	Х	Х										
1H		Х		X								
2B		Х	Х		Х							
2H		Х	Х	Х								
3B	Х	Х		Х								
3H	Х	Х			Х							
4B	Х	Х		Х	Х							
4H	Х	Х	Х	Х								
5B	Х		Х		Х							
5H	Х		Х		Х							
6B	Х			Х	Х							
6H	Х			Х	Х							
6S	X			X	Χ							

To assist with movement around school and decrease the likelihood of bubbles mixing, children will no longer be changing into trainers for play time so please make sure that they have sturdy school shoes for days when they are wearing uniform. This removes the need for a pair of indoor trainers/pumps as the children will remain in the same footwear all day. Children playing Rugby/Football will continue to need boots and these should be brought to school in the boot bag.

All children must have a named coat in school at all times.

Please note, children in 2H who would like to participate in 'Ball Games' on a Friday must bring their trainers to school.

The requirements for children to wear PE kit on the above days will begin immediately on Thursday 3rd September. Co-curricular activities will also begin on the first day.

Children in Years 3-6 will be required to bring their own pencil case from home. This is to prevent any unnecessary sharing of resources. They will need to make sure they have the following items:

- Writing pencils
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Colouring pencils
- Blue handwriting pen (no fountain pens please)
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Pencil sharpener

Every child will also need their own, named water bottle each day.

Children will be given a 'packet' to carry around their belongings and a School diary, as normal, in September.

Please note, in a change to the published list in the Parents' Handbook, children in Year 3 will require the Brontë House rucksack.

#### **COMMUNICATION**

The Parental Guidance gives us a starting point for the new term. A huge amount of time has gone into planning and preparation for the new term but, inevitably, we won't know how the new routines will work until the children return. We will keep you updated and inform you of any amendments to procedures in advance.

Relaying messages from the Office to individual pupils in bubbles around school is going to be more problematic than usual due to the need for staff and pupils to remain in consistent bubbles. Please can we ask that, as far as possible, you make arrangements with your children before school regarding after-school plans. If you are running late or wish to change your collection time, you don't need to inform us of this; your children will always be looked after until you arrive.

Please be aware that the member of Office staff between 5-6pm will not be in the Office to answer calls as they will be greeting parents at the front door and assisting with collection of children from classrooms.

In your child's planner, you will receive your child's class teacher's direct email address. Please direct any queries to class teachers in the first instance. We are here to help with any concerns.

Parent' Evenings, due to take place later this term will be taking place either via Zoom or by phone, depending on your preference.

#### **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

After such an extended break, we recognise that a return to school may prove challenging and that, for some children, the next few weeks may be a worrying and anxious time.

Over the past few weeks, we have been working on an initial unit of work for all children that will help them to rebuild friendships, overcome fears and reflect on the period of Lockdown over the last 6 months. We hope that this 'recovery curriculum' supports the transition back into school for our children and helps them to adjust to the new routines in place.

An anxious child is unable to learn effectively. With this in mind, we will be addressing the key themes of the loss of structure, routine, friendship, opportunity and freedom that the children have experienced during the Lockdown period. English lessons for the first few weeks will be focussed on these issues with PSHEE and circle time allowing children the opportunity to talk and reflect on their experiences.

Following this introductory period, we will return to our topic-based curriculum with children enjoying the units of work outlined below.

	Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6			
Year 1	Me and M	Ny World	Famous Faces	Travel and Transport	Gardener's World				
Year 2	Food Glorious Food!	Fire Fire!	Florence Nightingale	Charlie & the Chocolate Factory	Carnival of Animals	Weather Experts			
Year 3	Bronte and Beyond	Racing Romans	Beyond	d the Pyramid	Treasure Island				
Year 4	"Yer, a wizo	ard, Harry!"	Ŋ	Namaste	Let's 'head off' to meet the Tudors.				
Year 5	Adventures i	n the Amazon	V	ictorians	World War 2				
Year 6	Extrem	e Earth	Wo	orld War 1	An American Road Trip				

Maths will begin to be set from week commencing Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. This will give staff the opportunity to assess all children in the year group before deciding on initial maths sets for this term.

All of the children in Years 1-6 will be undertaking standardised assessments in reading and spelling during the week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> September. These will give a benchmark for the start of the year and will inform future teaching. The results will be discussed at Parents' Evening later in the term.

Children with Special Educational Needs will continue to receive regular support. This will be coordinated by Miss Bell, our SENCo, and it will now be delivered by the Teaching Assistants allocated to each Year Group bubble. The Teaching Assistants will receive training from Miss Bell during the forthcoming INSET days and will be able to offer more frequent, targeted support to those children with identified needs. Due to the need to allocate Miss Bell to a particular bubble, she will be working alongside Mrs Simpson and Mr Marshall in Year 3 this term, teaching English and Maths each day to those children who would benefit from supported interventions.

Similarly, in Year 4, we are delighted to be joined by Mr Moorhouse, who will be working alongside Mrs Downs and Mrs Ellershaw. This enables us to divide the two Year 4 classes into three smaller groups for English and maths, providing greater individual attention for our children when they return to school and maximising their progress.

Unfortunately, Mrs Mac is unable to re-join us in school next week due to ongoing illness. Mrs Sugden, who was teaching in one of our Year 2 classes, is moving to Year 5 to cover this period of absence until Mrs Mac returns. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Pinkney to Year 5 in a Teaching Assistant role. Along with Mrs Malir, she will assist both in the classroom and with small group withdrawal in English and Maths lessons.

Homework will be set according to the published timetable from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. We want to focus on a positive return to school for all of our children. After such a long time away, their happiness and productivity in lessons must be the focus. Homework, until this point, will be focused on transition activities.

At least one piece of homework every week will be completed using Seesaw, our remote learning platform. This is to ensure that the children remain familiar with the technology, should it be required again in the future, if a bubble were to be collapsed or a local lockdown announced.

#### **SPORT**

Due to the obvious risks associated with travel to other schools and mixing of children between settings, we will not be participating in any competitive sports fixtures at this time. We appreciate that this is disappointing for the children and will continue to review our risk assessment, in accordance with the guidance from the National Sports Governing Bodies.

The swimming pool will not be open in September and this will be reviewed with a view to reopening after half term. Until this time, each Year group's swimming lesson will be substituted with an additional PE lesson, taught by one of our specialist Games staff.

#### **PERFORMING ARTS**

Mr Phenny will continue to teach Music across the School but with restrictions on singing and instrument use, as per the Government guidance. Miss Cook will provide Dance lessons each week for Years 3 and 4, though she isn't able to teach Drama in Years 5 and 6 at this stage. For the moment, Drama will be largely overseen by class teachers.

Peripatetic music lessons are not able to re-start in school in September. This is due to concerns of ventilation, adequate cleaning of practice rooms between pupils and possible virus spread from visiting staff to groups of children in different bubbles. This will be kept under close review but, for the moment, we ask that lessons continue to take place remotely, in arrangement with individual peripatetic staff.

#### **KEEPING SAFE**

Please find below some of the measures that we are employing to keep our children and staff safe.

#### **Handwashing**

All children will wash their hands upon entry to the school, and then at regular intervals during the day. Our younger children will be fully supervised by a member of staff when washing their hands and the children will be taught thorough handwashing techniques during their Induction.

Outdoor sinks have been installed to allow children to wash hands before they return to classrooms after playtimes; additionally, hand sanitiser is located at all entry points into the school.

#### **Medical Attention and First Aid**

All bubbles have a fully stocked First Aid kit and all members of staff in the bubbles are First Aid trained. When administering First Aid, all staff will wear a visor, apron and gloves.

All emergency medication must be returned to school on the first day of the new term. This will continue to be stored securely in the School Office.

#### **Masks or Visors**

At present, Government advice does not compel or advise staff to wear masks and visors whilst in school. The school is fully supportive that some staff may choose to wear a mask and/or a visor and has provided all staff with a personal visor and surgical masks, should they choose to wear one. Staff in close proximity to children when they hear them read may choose to wear this PPE but, when teaching a class of children, they may choose not to. We will continue to support our staff to feel comfortable and confident in their individual roles in school.

#### **Face Coverings for Children**

At present, the Government are not advising that children wear masks in school. However, the school appreciates that some parents may prefer for their child to wear a face covering at certain points in the day, though this is not advised for very young children. Pupils and Staff who are using face coverings must adhere to the following guidance regarding face coverings:

- Pupils and staff using public transport and school buses to travel to and from school must follow the Government Guidelines on the use of face coverings
- Pupils and staff should not touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing them to prevent contamination with germs from hands
- Pupils and staff should wash their hands or use hand sanitiser immediately on arrival and before and after removal of face covering
- Temporary face coverings must be disposed of in a covered bin
- Reusable face coverings should be placed in a plastic bag while not in use
- Face coverings should be changed or washed daily in line with manufacturers guidelines
- Fabric face-coverings must be plain in colour and may not contain wording
- Pupils and staff must continue to wash their hands regularly

#### What happens if my child develops a symptom of Covid-19?

If your child becomes unwell, at home, with recent onset of a new continuous cough or high temperature or loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), please telephone the school office as soon as possible. If it is after 5PM or before 8AM, please email <a href="mailto:absence@brontehouse.co.uk">absence@brontehouse.co.uk</a> and <a href="mailto:Chatterton.se@brontehouse.co.uk">Chatterton.se@brontehouse.co.uk</a>

If your child becomes unwell in school with any one of the aforementioned symptoms, your child will be moved to the Isolation Room, which is the school's Meeting Room at Brontë House. The member of staff taking your child to the isolation room will be wearing full PPE and you will be informed and asked to collect your child as soon as possible.

The school will advise you to book a Covid-19 test for your child as your child will not be able to attend school again until the test result returns as negative or, if positive, until they have completed 10 days of self-isolation and are free of symptoms (other than a cough or loss of smell, as these symptoms can go on for several weeks after the infection has gone).

The school would not normally collapse the bubble until a positive result was received. In spite of this, the School also reserves the right to collapse a bubble before a positive test result is received if confidential information is known by the School, about the family/member of staff that makes the possibility of a positive result more likely.

Where your child tests negative, they can return to school and fellow household members can end their self-isolation and, if the bubble has been collapsed, this will be reopened.

#### What happens if my child tests positive for Covid-19?

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, the rest of their Year group "bubble" will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of the wider class do not need to self-isolate unless the pupil or staff member they live with subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national Test and Trace programme, if other cases are detected within the 'bubble', or within the wider setting, Public Health England's Local Health Protection Teams will conduct a rapid investigation and advise the school on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases, a larger number of other children may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure.

In this instance, learning will switch to the School's remote learning platform 'Seesaw' which, this year, should it be required, we are planning on combining with an element of live interactivity and teaching.

#### What if a child in my child's bubble tests positive?

Your child's bubble will be collapsed and your child will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

If your child develops symptoms, please inform the school office immediately and take your child for a Covid-19 test.

Again, remote learning will commence via Seesaw.

#### **Parental Agreement**

It is imperative that we work together with families in order to facilitate a safe and smooth return to school. With this in mind, the information below details the role of parents in this process.

Please click the link at the end of the document to indicate your agreement with the points below and to provide us with a little information to help us to keep your children safe. Please note, it is imperative that this is completed before your child is able to join us in school, either for a familiarization visit (Year 1 and new families to the school only) or to begin the new term.

- You will need to take your child's temperature **each morning**. We will not be recording this in school but it is helpful for you to understand your child's natural temperature range to help identify a possible spike. Children must not be brought to school with a temperature above 37.8 degrees.
- Please DO NOT give your child Calpol or any other paracetamol suspension to reduce a fever and then bring them into school.
- Only one parent is permitted to approach the school building with children at drop
  off/collection times. This should be a consistent adult, as far as possible, to limit the
  number of adults accessing the site. Any other adults and siblings must remain in the car.
- We appreciate that many of you will be delighted to see each other but if you wish to have a conversation, please arrange to meet away from the school site.
- Parents are not permitted within the Ashdown Lodge or Brontë House school buildings without the prior agreement of the Head. If you need to speak to a member of staff, please email them in the first instance.
- If your child is feeling upset, please be aware that staff are only able to take children by the hand to offer comfort. In this situation, you will be asked to take the child away and try again the following day. We are hoping that the familiarisation visits assist with this.
- Provide your child with a named water bottle each day and a pencil case containing items detailed in the equipment list.
- Please do not allow your child to bring into school any toys/resources from home.
- Parents should begin to prepare children for the aforementioned changes before they return to school; in particular, the need to distance from others; keep hands away from faces; catch coughs and sneezes; and follow all rules outlined by staff.

## <u>Please do not bring your child in to school if they are showing any signs which may</u> indicate they have COVID-19.

- A new, continuous cough coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours OR
- Fever temperature is above 37.8C **OR**
- Loss of smell or taste.

If a child or adult within the 'bubble' develops symptoms compatible with COVID-19, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days and their household members should isolate for 14 days.

Staff and pupils (if child is 5 or over, parents to use 111 online coronavirus service) will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and will be strongly advised to get tested in this scenario.

If they test positive, the rest of the 'bubble' - staff and pupils - will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

Please complete the following survey before your child returns to school.

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BHreturnSep2020