



BRONTE HOUSE

Parental Guide – September 2021

Dear Parents,

I do hope that families have enjoyed a relaxing break and that children are looking forward to the start of the new term.

Over the summer, and in line with government guidance, we have been working hard to adapt our procedures to afford the children the full Brontë House experience when they return. Whilst we are no longer operating in Year Group bubbles and a good number of last year's measures are relaxed, we remain vigilant and sensible precautions are in place to maintain the wellbeing of our school community.

In the event that local Covid cases rise significantly, or the School suffers an outbreak, we are ready to increase our precautions at short notice and parents will be informed of this directly.

We are delighted to announce our Co-Curricular programme, details of which may be found on page 10. Places for activities are bookable through Evolve and a link to the booking page will be sent shortly.

We hope that the information contained within this guide is useful; should parents have any further queries, please contact school on the email address below and we will be in touch in due course.

enquiries@brontehouse.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming children back to school on Monday 6th September.

With very best wishes,



Sarah Chatterton

Head, Brontë House

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STAFF

We are very pleased to be welcoming several new staff to Brontë House this year:

Our Modern Foreign Languages curriculum is now being overseen by the MFL Department at Woodhouse Grove and we will be joined each week by several members of staff from the Senior School.

Miss M Barnes is joining the MFL Department at the Grove in September and will be teaching French throughout Key Stage Two.

Miss E Corson will be teaching French to Year 6.

Miss M Jourdain will be teaching French in Years 1 and 2.

Games Department Staff

We have a large number of Sports Staff who will be working across the whole school, providing specialist coaching and provision in a wide range of sports. Mr Waterhouse and Mrs Couzens will be joined by Miss Webb in the delivery of curriculum PE.

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 8:25am.

Please see below for start and finish times:

	START	FINISH
Years 1 and 2	8:25am	3:30pm
Years 3 and 4	8:25am	3:45pm
Years 5 and 6	8:25am	3:45pm

THE MORNING ROUTINE

The amendments made to morning drop-off arrangements have worked well over the last year and will continue in September.

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) where they will be met by school staff and escorted to the Library or the Dining Room. 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. Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 should turn right at the top of the terrace and access school through the Greenwood doors. After placing coats and bags in cloakrooms, all children should proceed to the Dining Room.

Breakfast will be served from 7:30am – 8:00am in the Dining Room and will consist of a range of cereals, fruit juices and toast. Children in Years 1 and 2 that require breakfast must be in school by 7:40am.

Late Arrivals

Children in Years 1-6 who arrive after 8:25am MUST be brought to the main Office door.

Reporting Absence

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

absence@brontehouse.co.uk

DAILY ROUTINES

Your child will be given a timetable on the first day of school. During the day, the children will consistently remain within their Year Group, with Maths sets re-introduced from Year 3 upwards. After a very successful year of mixed ability teaching, Years 1 and 2 will remain in class groupings for Maths.

Key Stages 1 and 2 will continue to operate parallel timetables, as last year. This is to allow the two sections of the school better access to the School's grounds and facilities.

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 2021

Mon-Thurs	8.30 - 9.00	9.00 - 9.30	9.30 - 10.00	10.00 - 10.30	10.30 - 11.00	11.00 - 11.30	11.30-12.00	12.00-12.30	12.30-13.00	13.00-13.30	13.30 - 13.45	13.45 - 14.15	14.15 - 14.30	14.30 - 14.45	14.45 - 15.15	15.15 - 15.30	15.30 - 15.45	15.45 - 16.00	16.00 - 16.30	16.30 - 16.50	16.50 - 17.15	17.15 - 18.00	17.20 - 18.00
Y1&2	PERIOD 1	BREAK	PERIOD 2	Assembly/ ERIC/ PRECISION MATHS			BREAK	LUNCH	PERIOD 3	PERIOD 4	BREAK	PERIOD 5	CLUB TIME	BREAK	TEA	STORY TIME	LATE PREP						
Y3&4	PERIOD 1	BREAK	PERIOD 2	Assembly/ ERIC/ PRECISION MATHS			PERIOD 3	LUNCH	BREAK	REG	PERIOD 4	PERIOD 5	CLUB TIME	TEA	BREAK	LATE PREP							
Y5&6	PERIOD 1	PERIOD 2	BREAK	Assembly/ ERIC/ PRECISION MATHS			PERIOD 3	BREAK	LUNCH	REG	PERIOD 4	PERIOD 5	CLUB TIME	BREAK	TEA	LATE PREP							

Assemblies

Live assemblies for the whole school will return in September and we hope to be able to invite parents into school to share in Friday Awards Assembly in the coming weeks. Further information on this to follow, once we have safely returned to school.

Please note, that when Friday assemblies recommence for parents, they will take place at the start of the school day, at 8:30am.

Mealtimes

All food will be served in the Dining Room, with the children enjoying the full range of menu options. Menus are published in advance on the Woodhouse Grove website, though they may be subject to change given the problems suppliers face in obtaining some foods.

Tea will consist of a light snack, such as sandwiches, pizza and sausage rolls. Children in Year 3 and above must inform their form teacher of their intention to remain in school for tea during registration so please make sure that they are aware of after-school arrangements.

Uniform and Equipment

Children should attend school in uniform each day and ensure that PE/Games kit is available on PE days. As previously communicated, children may wear the old-style uniform until July 2022, or they may wear the new School Blazer uniform but the uniform chosen must be worn in its entirety, with the exception of bags and coats.

In order to remove the unnecessary sharing of resources, Children in Years 3-6 are asked to bring their own pencil case from home. It would be extremely helpful if this could contain 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, to be used throughout the day and during lunchtime.

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

Communication

If you have any queries or concerns, before the new term begins or once the children have returned, please don't hesitate to get in touch. The Office is open 9am – 2pm Tuesday 31st August – Friday 3rd September. Once the new term begins, the Office is staffed 8am – 5pm. Please be aware that there will be no staff in the Office after 5pm as they will be greeting parents at the front door and assisting with collection of children. They will endeavor to answer your call but please do call again if they are busy.

On the first day of term, you will receive your child's class teacher's direct email address, located in the front of their diary; as well as email addresses for the Senior Management Team and the Head. Queries regarding learning and progress should be directed to class teachers in the first instance; for any further concerns, please contact the appropriate Assistant Head.

Parents' consultations will go ahead with your child's Form Teacher this half term, week commencing Monday 27th September. We are hopeful to be able to offer a face-to-face option, as well as providing a Zoom appointment for those parents that may prefer this alternative.

END OF THE DAY

Arrangements will remain the same as throughout the previous academic year.

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.

Parents should queue up the path and wait at the gate to the tennis court at the time that their child's Year Group is due to finish school. Please do not queue through the car-park as this prevents cars from maneuvering. If the queue is too long, please stand along the grass at the bottom of the adventure playground.

Children will be lined up on the Tennis Court at the end of the day 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 3:30pm – 5pm. If you are collecting your child after the initial signing out period, please be aware that staff on duty will need to radio through for children so there may be a slight delay.

All parents collecting children after 5pm should make their way to the front door where a member of Office staff will be waiting to assist. After this time, the top car park, opposite the main entrance, may be used.

Wet Weather Plan

In the event of poor weather, children going home at the end of school will be dismissed from the following exit points:

Year 1, 2 and 3 – red front door

Year 4 and 6 – Greenwood doors

Year 5 – Library door

After 4pm – all children to be collected from the red front door

Adventure Playground

The adventure playground is out of bounds after school and children should not play on the equipment.

CO-CURRICULAR

The time between the end of the School day and 6pm will comprise 4 different elements:

- Co-Curricular Activity
- Outside Playtime
- Tea
- Prep/After-School Care (Ashdown Lodge)

For each Year Group, these will take place at different times, as below.

	15.30 15.45	15.45 16.00	16.00 16.30	16.30 16.50	16.50 17.15	17.15 18.00	17.20 18.00
ASHDOWN	CLUB TIME		BREAK	TEA	AFTER SCHOOL CARE		
Y1&2	CLUB TIME		BREAK	TEA	STORY TIME	AFTER SCHOOL CARE	
Y3&4		CLUB TIME		TEA	BREAK	LATE PREP	
Y5&6		CLUB TIME		BREAK	TEA	LATE PREP	

We are delighted to share with you our new co-curricular programme and we would encourage children to embrace the full range of opportunities available. All activities must be booked online through Evolve and parents will receive a separate email notification to inform them that the booking system is now live. New parents to the school and those without an account will be prompted to create a log-in before being able to access the system.

Brontë House Co-Curricular Provision 2021 Autumn Term 1

RECEPTION					
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
REC 3.30-4.00					Multisports
	Dance (Nursery children may attend)	Tatty Bumpkin Mindfulness & Yoga (Nursery children may attend)	Smarty Pants Spanish (Nursery children may attend)	Mini Ninjas	
	Craft Club	Junior Artist	Book Club	Jigsaw Club	Sewing

YEARS 1&2					
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Y1 & Y2 3.30-4.00	Multisports		Body & Balance		Multisports
		Tatty Bumpkin Mindfulness and Yoga		Mini Ninjas	
	Nature Club	Let's Create	Recorders	Junior Artist	Film Club
	Computing	Sign Language	STEM	Story Club	Languages
	After School Care	After School Care	After School Care	After School Care	After School Care

YEARS 3&4					
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Y3 & Y4 3.45-4.30	Swim		Netball	Rugby	Cross Country
	Taskmaster	Brontë Knitwits	Gardening	Choir	Film Club
	BBC Presents	Mathstastic	Authorfy	Mandarin	Coding
	Early Prep	Early Prep	Early Prep	Early Prep	Early Prep

Years 5&6					
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Y5 & Y6 3.45-4.30	Rugby	Netball	Swim	Cross Country	Box Fit
	Choir	Gardening	Ready, Steady, Cook	Junior Artist	Film Club
	Authorfy	Computing	Drama	Mathstastic	Scrabble
	Early Prep	Early Prep	Early Prep	Early Prep	Early Prep

CLUB KEY	SPORT (Book through Evolve)	CREATIVE (Book through Evolve)	ACADEMIC (Book through Evolve)	ALTERNATIVE AFTER SCHOOL CARE (Non-Bookable)	EXTERNAL PROVIDER (Book through Evolve & pay direct to provider)
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FURTHER DESCRIPTIONS AND DETAILS OF EACH CLUB CAN BE FOUND ON EVOLVE.

Children will have the opportunity to join an increasing number of activities as they move through the school, with Year 3 upwards enjoying an Academic, Creative, Sport and Early Prep option every afternoon.

Activities will run for a half-term and must then be re-booked. For logistical reasons, some activities have limited numbers and some children will, inevitably, be disappointed. Those children on the waiting list will be given first refusal the proceeding half-term.

Parents booking a place in a club run by an external provider will be prompted to register interest in Evolve. School will pass on payment details once this place has been confirmed.

Once children have selected an activity, staff will expect them to attend for the full half term, unless we are informed of an intended absence.

The majority of children remaining on site after school will be engaged in a pre-booked activity. Children in Years 1 and 2 for whom this does not apply will be supervised in the Library by our Teaching Assistants and enjoy some 'down time' with friends.

Children in Years 3-6 who are not engaged in the Co-Curricular programme will attend 'Early Prep'. This is an opportunity to gain some assistance with homework from school staff before going home.

With the exception of After-School Care for Years 1 and 2 and Early Prep for Years 3-6, we would be grateful if parents could wait until the end of co-curricular activities before collecting children from school in order to avoid disruption to the activity. Club finishing times for each Year Group may be found on page 9 of this booklet.

All children who remain in school following co-curricular activities will play outside at their allocated time and all will be served tea.

'Late prep' for older children will be the usual supervised homework session in the Library. Any children who have already attended 'Early Prep' will enjoy some down time and be given the opportunity to play games and use the iPads, supervised by staff.

For children in Years 1 and 2, Prep is less formal and will be supervised by staff in the Year 1 classrooms.

Children in Years 1 and 2 will continue to 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 and write it in children's diaries, if they are likely to forget.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Due to the absence of the Transition Day at the end of the summer term, all children will spend the day with their Form Teacher on the first day of term. Please ensure that PE kit is also available in school as the children may enjoy some sport at some point during the day.

Please find below the topic grid for Years 1-6 for the forthcoming year.

Topic Planning - Years 1-6

2021-2022

	Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6
Year 1	Me and My World		Famous Faces	Travel and Transport	Gardener's World	
Year 2	Field to Fork.	Fire Fire!	Marvellous Medicine	Charlie & the Chocolate Factory	On Safari	
Year 3	Beyond the Pyramid		Racing Romans		Our Wonderful World	
Year 4	"Yer, a wizard, Harry!"		Namaste		Travelling with the Tudors	
Year 5	Adventures in the Amazon		Victorians		World War 2	
Year 6	Extreme Earth		World War 1		An American Road Trip	

All of the children in Years 1-6 will be undertaking standardised assessments in reading and spelling during the week commencing 20st September. These will give a benchmark for the start of the year and will inform future teaching. The results will be discussed at Parents' Consultations the following week.

Children with Special Educational Needs will continue to receive regular support, which will be coordinated by Miss Bell.

Homework will be set according to each class's published timetable from Monday 6th September.

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.

SPORT

Physical Education

The main aim of the Physical Education Curriculum is to provide students with the opportunities to take part in a wide range of sports and activities throughout the school year. Children will spend 6 weeks on an activity before moving onto a different one, with the aim of providing a wide range of experiences across the curriculum. In the Autumn Term, we will focus on gymnastic skills, ball skills and hockey.

We are thoroughly looking forward to the return of swimming as part of the PE curriculum this term; all children in Years 1-6 will enjoy a weekly swimming lesson. Please be assured that we will be taking it slowly and build up children's confidence in the water. We will be following Swim England's 'Learn to Swim Framework'. All students will need to bring navy swimwear, a school swimming cap as well as a towel and a pair of goggles. Swimming commences from Tuesday 7th September.

Games

During the Autumn Term, children will take part in rugby, netball and hockey. These sessions help prepare children for inter-school fixtures throughout the term.

Gum shields will be required for rugby and hockey as well as shin pads for the latter. Football/rugby boots will be required for rugby; outdoor trainers for hockey.

We also have several House events planned for the children to enjoy this term during Games afternoons.

Co-Curricular Sport

We have developed a varied and extensive after-school sports programme which will enable all children to take part in a range of sports during the Autumn Term.

Inter-school fixtures will take place for children in Years 3-6 during the Autumn Term, details of fixtures can be found online:

https://www.woodhousegrovesport.co.uk/Fixtures_Teams.asp?Id=269

We look forward to welcoming parents back to supporting our inter-school fixtures programme and more information will be communicated regarding this by Mr King in due course.

(Mr D. King)

KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

Whilst we are very much looking forward to life being more normal in school, Covid-19 remains in circulation, and we still need to keep everyone safe. This means that:

- Anyone displaying symptoms should not attend school and needs to have a PCR test, in line with public health advice.
- If a pupil or member of staff is displaying symptoms in school, they will be required to return home and arrange to have a PCR test.
- We will continue to operate with a detailed risk assessment and outbreak management plan.
- Children and staff will continue to regularly sanitise their hands throughout the day.
- We will also ensure good ventilation of classrooms.
- Children travelling on the School bus will be required to wear a face covering.
- Children are no longer required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. As a school, we are no longer required to undertake contact tracing – close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and children advised to take a PCR test.