

# BRONTË HOUSE SCHOOL

brontehouse.co.uk

31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

Dear Ashdown Parents,

We hope that you have had an enjoyable summer break and that the children are excited about returning to Ashdown Lodge on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

You will receive a pack containing further information about your child's class on their first day. This will include the timings of the day, the work that we are planning to cover, a collection form for you to complete and a list of staff email addresses and names. You should have received, or be continuing to use, your Tapestry log in.

Through this, you will receive pictures and narrative of what your child is doing here with us in school; as well as photographs of the staff that will be working with your child on a day-to-day basis. We want to get to know you and your children quickly so we can get off to the best start possible.

There are a several changes within Ashdown that parents should be aware of:

- Changes to the uniform have been previously communicated and full details of the requirements are available on the School website below. As previously stated, children may attend Ashdown Lodge wearing either the Monkhouse uniform or the new one from School Blazer; however, a 'mix and match' of the two uniforms is not allowed, with the exception of bags and coats.

### [Uniform Information](#)

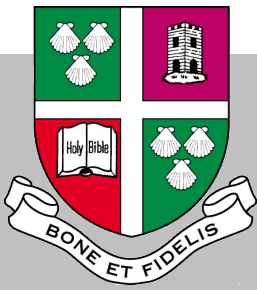
- With effect from September 2021, the statutory framework that underpins our Early Years curriculum is changing substantially. Tapestry might look a little different because of this as some of the headings have changed and the emphasis on some areas of learning has become stronger. The areas regarded as the most important are language development; developing a love of reading; as well as self-regulation and learning to behave appropriately in any given situation. Our staff have received training in preparation for this curriculum change and are experienced in delivering a high-quality Early Years education at this crucial time of your child's development.
- Other changes are around procedures and routines around the school. The bubble system (keeping classes separate) no longer applies and masks are no longer mandatory around the site. School will NOT be carrying out close contact tracing. From August 2021, children under 18 no longer have to self isolate if contacted by track and trace as a close contact of a positive case, and neither do staff who have been double vaccinated. This should mean fewer children are affected by a confirmed case and there should be less disruption in school. Children will continue to be dropped off at the appropriate door in the morning and collected from there at home time and Marianna, our dedicated housekeeper, will continue to provide us with enhanced cleaning throughout the day.

Apperley Bridge, West Yorkshire, BD10 0PQ  
Tel: 0113 2502 811 enquiries@brontehouse.co.uk

*I am Grovian.*



Woodhouse Grove School is part of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust.  
Registered Office: Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW15JR.  
Charity No. 1142794. Company No. 7649422.



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- External visits and Co-curricular activities for Nursery and Reception will resume, and parents should have received a booking link from Evolve to reserve places. Please see the table below for further details.

## 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

The activities above coloured purple are provided through an external company and therefore have a small fee attached. These must be booked through Evolve. This also applies to Multisports. Any parent who has not received an emailed link to Evolve should contact the Office.

The green activities are provided by our own staff and all Reception children who remain in school after the end of the day will be invited to attend; booking is not required for these activities.

A member of Ashdown's staff will accompany children to the activities in order to provide support and reassurance to the children.

Rather than provide too many after school clubs for our youngest children, who are often already tired at the end of a long day; we are providing a greater number of curriculum enhancements throughout the normal school day. Children will enjoy additions such as Mr Wears and our 'Music Masterclass'; Sport will be provided by our specialist WGS team; and French will begin for Reception. We will continue to add more as the term progresses and the children settle into their new routines.

Some other information that you may find important to have to hand on the first day of term is as follows:

### **Dropping off Arrangements at Ashdown Lodge**

Pre-Nursery - please enter through the canopy.

Nursery - drop off at the front doors by ringing the bell.

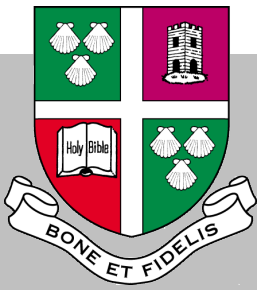
Reception - All Reception arriving between 7.30am and 8.30am should go straight to South Lodge. Mrs Potter's children arriving after 8.30am should enter through the main Nursery door.

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## Collecting your Child

From 3.30pm – 5.00pm, Pre-Nursery and Nursery can be collected from the same place that they were dropped off.

From 3.30 until 5.00pm, Reception children will either be in South Lodge or in the outside play area, adjacent to the South Lodge building. From 5.00pm onwards, they will join with the other children who are with us for the final part of after school care in the Main Nursery room. Access is by ringing the bell on the main front door.

The table below indicates how the time after the end of the school day is divided for children in Nursery and Reception.

	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		

## Keeping Safe

We will continue to send children home if we suspect they may be Covid positive and will require them to take a PCR test before returning. Children must also undertake a PCR test if they have been in close contact or live with a person who tests positive for Covid 19, although they will no longer be required to self-isolate if the result is negative. It is imperative for the health of everyone and the smooth running of the school that we continue to follow this process. Remote education will be provided for children in Nursery and above if they are isolating or have been confirmed as positive but are well enough to work. Also, please continue to inform school if you have recently returned from a holiday abroad, as the government guidance on this changes frequently.

## Meals

Pre-Nursery and Nursery will have all meals and snacks served in their own classrooms by staff who are familiar to them.

Reception will use the Brontë dining room for their lunch. All other food is served in their classrooms.

Children should be in school by 8.00am if they wish to have breakfast. All children should bring in a named water bottle each day too. Tea is served at 4.30pm and is a light sandwich tea with crudités and fruit.

## Reporting absence

Please contact [absence@brontehouse.co.uk](mailto:absence@brontehouse.co.uk)

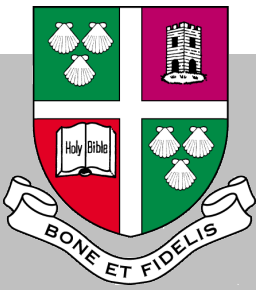
It is important that you let us know at the beginning of the period that your child is absent from school.

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Tel: 0113 2502 811 [enquiries@brontehouse.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@brontehouse.co.uk)

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## **Medical and Dietary Needs**

Please remember to let us know of any changes to your child's circumstances since we last saw you such as a change of address or changes to any medical or dietary requirements.

Finally, Ashdown is currently undergoing some significant improvements to the fabric of the buildings. A new cloakroom and children's bathroom has been constructed in South Lodge and Pre-Nursery has been fully re-fitted for the start of the Autumn Term. Further improvements to the Nursery room are scheduled for October half term.

The Office is open for the remainder of this week between 9.00am and 2pm, should you have any queries or concerns. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you all back into school on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Hinchliffe

Assistant Head (Ashdown Lodge)

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