



Barrow, Broseley, Shropshire, TF12 5BW

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Chair of Governors: Ms. C. Jones



02/09/2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you that you managed to enjoy a break over summer and that plans were not too disrupted by the turbulent end to the term, with a number of pupils being required to isolate.

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school after the summer holiday. They seem to have grown so much since we broke up last term. They all enjoyed playing together outside - at long last! Oak pupils were superb role-models to the younger children during assembly and at lunch time. Children in Year 1 were able to experience being part of a whole school on the playground for the first time!

New Pupils

As well as those of our new intake in Yew Tree Class, we are delighted to welcome two families to Barrow 1618 whose children started in Ash Class.

Dropping-off and Collection

Please ensure that your child/children are dropped off between 8:20 and 8:40 unless they are attending breakfast club. Parents should hand children over to the member of staff on the gate to the playground or pathway from the upper gravel car-park. They will then be directed to the bottom playground where another member of staff will be on duty. Gates will be closed after this time and any late arrivals will need to alert the office using the intercom.

At 15:30 pupils will be dismissed from their class lines on the bottom playground by their teachers.

Equipment & Uniform

All uniform should be labelled. Any unclaimed clothing that is in good condition will be washed and added to a second-hand clothing rail which will be available at the end of each half-term.

For this term, pupils in Elm, Ash and Oak classes should arrive in kits on PE days. Pupils in Yew Tree class will get changed in school as this is part of their early learning.

Forest-school clothing can remain in school.

All equipment, including stationery and pencil cases, will be provided by school; pupils should not bring in toys.

Water bottles, reading books/bags and a healthy snack should be brought into school by the children each day.

COVID-19

Currently, you will be hearing a great deal about increasing rates of COVID infection on the news. Please refer to our [Coronavirus Outbreak Management Plan and Preventing and Managing Sickness, Including Outbreaks](#). Our staged response, risk assessment and control measures can be found within these documents on the school website. Our risk assessment is a working document that is constantly being reviewed and updated to comply with government guidance. This was last updated on 27th August and can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

Specific guidance for parents/carers is also available on the Department for Education website: [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges](#)

As you will see, many restrictions have now been lifted. I can imagine that some of you are concerned about the spread of infection whilst others will just be happy to re-establish a level of normality. I expect many feel a mixture of both – pleased by a return to regular routines but with some degree of anxiety.

As a community, I am confident that our common goal is to sustain as much normality as possible whilst ensuring that everyone remains safe and happy.

This morning a few of you asked me whether you should wear masks or not on the school site. Whilst outside, that is a matter of personal choice. However, as in the wider community, when indoors within a small or crowded space, face coverings may be worn by staff, parents and visitors to the school (unless exempt), especially to protect others. Social distancing measures and reduced contact where possible and when it does not interfere with children's education and well-being are still being advised.

Controls such as good ventilation, handwashing and cleaning will remain in place to help control the spread of the virus.

Pupils should not attend school if they have symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, new persistent cough, anosmia) – they should isolate, get a PCR and only return if the PCR is negative and they are better (and 24 hours free of any fever and 48 hours free of any diarrhoea/vomiting).

As a school we will continue to monitor infection rates and absences. However, schools are no longer responsible for requesting pupils to isolate as this is now the role of the NHS Test and Trace service: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

Celebration Assemblies

Celebration assemblies will continue on Fridays with individual classes leading them each week. As this term progresses, we plan to invite parents/carers in to school to join their children for lunch and stay for the assembly afterwards when it is the turn of their child's class to lead it.

Wraparound Care & Clubs

If your child attends Breakfast or After-school Club, please drop them off and collect them at the hall door. Clubs will begin on 20th September and you will be receiving more information about these shortly.

Well, the children have just been dismissed and handed over to you after a very happy day and a great start to the new term! Thank you for all of your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Sian Stephenson (Headteacher)