

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you are all having a wonderful summer break and would like to offer you, in advance of Monday, a warm welcome back to school. Within this letter, as promised, I will detail a range of information that will support your child's return to school for this coming academic year.

Staffing

As previously shared, and with a few updates, please find below an **overview of our staffing** for this coming year.

	Staff within each year group
2 year Old	Kat Silverthorne, Gemma Warren, Emma Hassell
3 Year Old	Louise Ferris, Michelle Frankcom, Sam Burns, Sally Rosser, Kerrie Walsh Stephanie Singleton returning from maternity leave from 22 nd October
YR	Amy Bathgate, Abbie Griffiths-Lack, Kayleigh Hirthe
Year 1	Jenny Georgiou (M-W)/ Katherine Wimpenny (W-F), Dionne Pearson, Sue Phillips, Trish Warren
Year 2	Jordan Thomas, Leanne Southey
Year 3	Seongeun Ji, Tyra Shelper
Year 4	Nick Johnston, Oshay Morris
Year 5	Howard Davies, Lia Palmer
Year 6	Emily Kirley, Emma Stafford, Jayne Roberts

Once again, we welcome all new and returning staff to our school family.

As the year goes on, all enquiries or questions can be directed, via the school office staff (Mrs Andriana Papanantoniou /Mrs Chantelle Francis), to the appropriate member of staff or to the any of the following members of the leadership team:

- Mr Kinnear (Deputy Head)
- Mrs Kirley/ Mr Johnston (KS2 leader)
- Mrs Thomas (KS1 leader)
- Miss Billingham (SENCO/Inclusion)
- Mrs Lewis (EYFS lead)

School Uniform

As a school, we are proud of our school uniform and we very much appreciate your adherence to our uniform expectations. **Summer uniform may still be worn until Autumn half term but immediately following, children must wear our winter uniform.** Uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to our school. Please ensure that you advise year group staff as to why your child isn't

wearing any aspect of the school uniform at any time so that they do not have to approach you unnecessarily. We thank you in advance for supporting us in upholding our standards.

Summer:

- As above or red/white checked dress
- Black/navy/grey knee length shorts
- Closed toe, sturdy sandals

Winter:

- Red sweatshirt, jumper, cardigan or fleece
- Plain white polo shirt or blouse
- Black/navy/grey trousers, dress or skirt
- White/black socks or tights
- Black/brown shoes

Attendance/Absence and Holidays in Term Time:

From September, **attendance in school is compulsory** and our policy on attendance, reporting children's absences and holidays in term time needs to be adhered to. **If your child is too ill to attend school, then parents must report absences on Study Bugs (a link can be found at the top of the schools website)—unexplained absences are recorded as "unauthorised"**.

It is then your responsibility to report illnesses on any future days of illness, so our registers are kept up to date. Our policy reflects the government's stance on holidays in term time. Fixed Penalty Notices (fines) for a leave of absence in term time, if it fulfils the local authority's criteria, will be issued this academic year by the local authority. Please can parents/carers be aware of this when booking any holidays, trips etc.

Healthy School Status

As a '**healthy school**', we ask for your support in ensuring your child's **morning snack and lunchbox contains healthy options**. A break time snack can consist of a piece of fruit or a fruit bar: we strongly discourage crisps and chocolate snacks at break times.

Research links healthy eating with healthy minds and optimal thinking and learning at school. We also encourage our children to **keep hydrated** as much as possible from their **labelled water bottles** they are to bring into school each day. Again, drinking regularly has positive benefits for children's health, well-being, concentration, physical performance and behaviour.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Breakfast club runs between 8am-8.45am on a school day with last entrance at 8.30am.

Please speak to the office if you want to book a place in After School Club. Places fill up quickly for After School Club and can't be booked on the day. See the school website for more details on both Breakfast Club and After School Club.

Medical Reminders

All inhalers, epi-pens and any medication that your child requires to take during the school day **MUST be in school on the first day of term**. A **medication form** can be collected from the school office, this must be completed and returned if your child will be requiring medication again this coming academic year. **Medication cannot be given in school in September until forms have been completed, signed and returned to school via the school office**. Please ensure that all **medication is prescribed and is in date**.

As you are aware, if your child is on a **long-term health care plan**, this will be **reviewed with you in Term 1 2021**. You will be contacted by school, once the children have started back to school, to arrange an appointment to review and update the plan.

Our journey to 'returning to normal'- How are we applying the government guidance at Sea Mills Primary School?

Bubble Systems

Consistent (year group) bubbles will no longer be required within school, therefore, moving forward, children will mix with children from other year groups at points throughout the day/week.

Assemblies can resume, although these will be slowly reintroduced to children throughout the Autumn Term.

Lunchtimes will revert to normal, with all school lunches being served in the school hall. Year groups will share the hall and also playground at break and lunchtimes. Within the classroom, children can now be seated in groups or rows (this will be a decision made by individual staff members).

After school clubs will now resume and a list of clubs on offer will be released during the Autumn term.

Start and end of day arrangements

Start and end of day timings will revert back to normal – there will no longer be any staggered timings for the start or end of the day, however, there will be a time bracket during which you can drop off your child in a morning.

Start of school:

Reception: 8.50am

Y1-Y6: 8.45am

End of school: 3.15pm.

Entrance and collections points:

All children are to enter and exit from the main school gate. The car park gate will no longer be in use, supervised or open for children.

Parents can drop off and collect children at their classrooms, however for safety please continue to not clog up doorways and exits.

Continuing to keep our community safe- Lateral Flow Testing for Staff and Parents/Carers

Due to the latest updates regarding self-isolation, lateral flow testing will now play an extremely important role in helping us to identify any asymptomatic cases of Covid-19 and in turn help break the chain of transmission and suppress the spread of the virus in our school community.

Staff in school will continue to undertake lateral flow testing twice-weekly. This testing arrangement will continue until the end of September when it is to be reviewed by the government. We were delighted to hear of so many families, throughout the Summer Term, also engaging with lateral flow home testing. Testing kits remain readily available from testing sites or through ordering from <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> and we hope that families continue to regularly test in order to help contribute to keeping our school community safe.

If your child displays symptoms of coronavirus...

The most important **symptoms of coronavirus** (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- **a new continuous cough**
- **a high temperature**
- **a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).**

If your child displays any of the above coronavirus symptoms, please ensure that you book them in for a **full PCR test** (<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>) and **not use a lateral flow home test**

kit. The evidence that school needs in order **for a child to return to school** is a **negative result from a PCR test** which needs to be **emailed into the school** email address: sea.mills.p@bristol-schools.uk

If a child in school does test positive, school are no longer responsible for contact tracing and whole 'bubbles' will no longer close. Instead, **the individual who has tested positive will need to isolate.** **Any identified close contacts will need to follow the advice provided by Track and Trace if they are contacted by them.**

If someone in your child's household tests positive for Covid-19 or they have been identified as a close contact with a positive case...

Your child is **not 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. Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal.

Further Correspondence

In the next couple of weeks you will be receiving:

- Your child's class newsletter **outlining** and the knowledge and skills they will gain this term, as well as PE and homework information
- Welcome back newsletter- detailing an update from Mrs Randall, news of the events held over the summer break and key dates for your diaries

I am thoroughly looking forward to welcoming all of our children, existing ones and new ones, into Sea Mills Primary for the start of our new school year. As a staff, we look ahead with enthusiasm to building positive partnerships between home and school, to ensure that children make the most of their learning opportunities and can thrive at Sea Mills.

Enjoy the last couple of days of the summer break and we all look forward to seeing you on Monday 6th September.

Best Wishes

Sian Randall