



Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Benthal,

I hope that you and your families are well.

As promised in my previous email sent to you last week, I am able to give you further information regarding the full re-opening of Benthal in September.

As you are aware I have been using the new guidance from the government and Hackney Learning Trust to enable me to look at how **all** the children can return to school in the new academic year safely.

A new Risk Assessment will be written based on the total number of pupils & staff we have at the school and the size and shape of the building and the playground areas. This will be sent to all parents/carers at the start of September.

I have taken this approach to reopening the school following the guidance from the Department of Education and through discussion with and the full support of the Governing Board. They are in agreement with the process that I am using to ensure the safety of all the pupils and staff.

As this information is important for you to know now before we break up, I have selected some of the key points from the new government guidance and how Benthal will be following them.

- **Social Distancing**- primary age children will no longer need to socially distance from each other, but all staff will need to continue with this health & safety measure.
- **Benthal School Office**- the school office area will remain closed to parents/carers for enquiries in person, so we ask parent/carers to email or phone instead within school opening hours
- **Bubble Groups** - Bubble groups can be larger. Therefore each year group will become a 'Bubble Group'. This means that children in the same year group bubble group will be able to mix. However, each year group bubble will be kept separated from other year group bubbles.
- **Staffing**- adults that work in the school can work across a bubble group and in different bubble groups.
- **Classroom Organisation**- All children in Year 2 up to Year 6 will sit in pairs, in rows facing the board. However, in Early Years and Year 1 the children will sit in very small groups of no more than 4 children to a table group.
- **Playground**- the infant and junior playground will be divided into zones, which will be timetabled.
- **Staggered Times**- staggered times for Drop off/Pick-ups (please be aware that you may have to wait if you have children in different year group bubbles and have a different drop off/pick up time) staggered times for playtime and lunch time will remain in place.
- **School entrances**- Rendelsham Road Gate and the front Courtyard entrance will be used.

Unfortunately, following the government guidance, I cannot allow any parents/carers into the large playground at this time. If you are dropping off or picking up your child please wait outside of the gate along the pavement, following the current social distancing guidance. If you are using the Courtyard entrance can I please request that you leave the school premises promptly, once you have dropped off or picked up.

**Please see the table below for each Year Group Bubble Drop Off and Pick Up times and which entrance to use from September.**



**BENTHAL PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Benthal Road, London N16 7AU  
Tel: 020 8985 9310 [office@benthal.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:office@benthal.hackney.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Ms L Drew  
[www.benthal.hackney.sch.uk](http://www.benthal.hackney.sch.uk)



	Drop off and Pick Up times	Entrance to be used
<b>Year 6</b>	8.45am-3.15pm	Rendelsham Road Gate
<b>Year 5</b>	9.15am-3.45pm	Rendelsham Road Gate
<b>Year 4</b>	9.05am-3.35pm	Rendelsham Road Gate
<b>Year 3</b>	9.15am-3.45pm	Courtyard Entrance side door
<b>Year 2</b>	8.55am-3.25pm	Rendelsham Road Gate
<b>Year 1</b>	9.00am-3.30pm	Courtyard Entrance Juniper Classroom Gate Magnolia, front door of the school under the arch
<b>Reception</b>	9.00am-3.30pm (Not the first 2 weeks)	Courtyard entrance inside the Early Years Playground
<b>Nursery</b> From 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Morning= 8.45am-11.45am Afternoon= 12.45pm-3.45pm Full Timers=8.45am- 3.45pm	Courtyard entrance inside the Early Years Playground

- **Curriculum-** Information about the recovery curriculum and the social, emotional approach that Benthall will be taking will be shared with you in September. All the links to learning support websites will remain on our school Benthall website, if you wish to access them during the summer holiday.
- **Video Conferencing-** we will continue to use this technology as a tool in the new academic year.
- **Extended Services-** Breakfast Club & Play centre will be open as usual for Key Worker children and working parent/carers from 7<sup>th</sup> September. You will be required to re-register your child, even if your child attended the extended services provision in the last academic year. If you require a breakfast club/play centre place, please email the school office by 17<sup>th</sup> August.
- **After School Clubs-** there will not be any after school clubs in the Autumn term

In addition, we will be taking two days to allow all the children to return to school in September safely. This is to ensure that the new staggered timetable works for more children and will allow for an adjustment if needed.

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September- Staff INSET- school is closed for pupils

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September- Pupils in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 can attend Benthall** from today following the drop off/pick up time and entrance as in the table above

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September- Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can attend Benthall** from today following the drop off/pick up time and entrance as in the table above.

Children beginning our Reception classes & Nursery will follow a more gradual approach to their return to school. If you have a child in Reception or beginning Nursery you will receive a letter from Ms Milner, Early Years Leader with further details.

I, along with all the staff team, am really looking forward to welcoming back **all** of the children and you in September. It will be a very exciting time for us all.

Thank you all for your flexibility, understanding and continued support, it has been very much appreciated in these difficult times.

Have a great summer and keep safe,

Take care,  
Ms L Drew  
Head Teacher  
Benthall Primary School



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