

Information for the start of term – Balfour Juniors September 2021

Attendance at school

School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age. All clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) children should school unless they are one of the very small number of children under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their clinician or other specialist not to attend.

Control measures

The following control measures will be in place; please see the full risk assessment and Outbreak Management Plan, which will be published on the school website, for more details.

1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone** - frequent and thorough hand cleaning and the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
2. **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes** - regular cleaning of areas and equipment, with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.
3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated** - opening external windows and internal doors to assist with air circulation
4. **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19** - Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#). They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).

Outbreak Management Plan

The school's outbreak management plan covers the possibility that in some local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce additional measures, such as face coverings, on a temporary basis. Please see the school's Outbreak Management Plan, which will be published on our website, along with the school's full risk assessment.

Self-isolating

Individuals are 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, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

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 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. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

Bubbles

It is no longer necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles').

Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either outdoors, in classrooms or in communal areas.

Times of the school day

Staggered start, finish and break times are no longer in place.

The times of the school day are as follows:

Arrival:

Pupils may arrive on the site and wait in the playground with their parents from **8.30 am**

The whistle is blown and children are led in to class at **8.40 am**

Learning starts promptly at **8.50 am**

Break: **10:45am -11:00am**

Lunch: **12:20pm – 1:20pm**

The school day ends at **3:30pm**

Uniform and PE kit

Pupils are expected to wear correct school uniform at all times:

- Grey or black skirt or trousers (tailored shorts in summer, if required)
- White shirt with collar
- School tie
- White polo shirt (summer wear only)
- Blue and white gingham dress (summer wear only)
- Royal blue V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan
- Fleece (optional) – outdoor wear only, not to be worn in class
- Flat black shoes - **NOT TRAINERS or BOOTS**

(Summer uniform may be worn during terms 1, 5 and 6)

On the days your child has PE, they should wear their PE kit to school:

- Plain white T-shirt
- Blue shorts
- Plimsolls for indoor use
- Trainers for outdoor / field use
- Plain blue or black tracksuit or suitable clothing for winter

Trips and visits

The school will undertake full and thorough risk assessments in relation to all educational visits and ensure that any public health advice, such as hygiene and ventilation requirements, is included as part of that risk assessment.