



## Welcome to the Academic Year 2020-2021

Welcome back to the beginning of a new school year and a very special welcome to all the new children, families and staff who have joined us this term.

Every September there is always a lot of 'work behind the scenes' that goes on before children come back to school and the teachers have worked hard to develop learning environments that are safe and welcoming. We have also been able to reintroduce some resources, with safety measures, that we couldn't use last term and that feels like another step in the right direction back to normality. It is a case of 'one step at a time', however and I think that we should prepare ourselves that some of the arrangements that we've made may possibly have to be in place for the whole of the school year.

Please can I ask you to remind yourselves of our return to school plan that we shared with families at the end of the Summer term. Please bear with us if we need to revise the plan as we put new systems into place. The plan can be found on our school website here:

<https://www.turnfurlong-inf.bucks.sch.uk/page/?title=Welcome+from+the+Headteacher&pid=59>

### Quarantine on return to UK

I hope that you were all able to enjoy the warm days that we had this Summer. Some of you may have been lucky enough to have some time away on holiday. If your family has travelled abroad and you need to quarantine, we ask that you follow the guidance to quarantine for 14 days on return to the UK and inform the school office of the date when your child is able to return to school. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>

### School start and finish times

One of the biggest changes that we've made is to stagger the beginning and end of the school day for different year groups. By staggering the timings, we are hoping to reduce congestion at the school gates, so this arrangement is for everyone's safety. We also ask that you arrive and leave the school site as promptly as possible and follow the one-way systems that we have in place.

Timings are as follows:

Year group	Beginning of the school day	End of school day
Nursery	8.30/12.30	11.30/3.30
Reception	8.30	3.00
Year 1	8.45	3.15
Year 2	9.00	3.30

If you have a child in Reception or Nursery, and an older child in Year 1 or 2, you can drop your Year 1 or 2 child off at the office to be looked after in 'The Sunflower Room' from 8.30am. Families requiring longer childcare should use the Little Rascals Breakfast Club.

At the end of the day, parents will be able to wait in a designated area of the playground or in our area of the school field.

### **Absence from school**

If your child is absent from school, please contact the school on the first day of their absence. A message can be left with one of the office staff (Mrs Cooper and Mrs Darling) or on the answer machine (telephone 01296 489265) or an email message may be sent to [office@turnfurlong-inf.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@turnfurlong-inf.bucks.sch.uk).

Any holidays taken in school time are recorded as unauthorised absence. Where possible, we also ask that medical appointments are made after school or during the school holidays.

### **Illness – tummy bugs**

If your child has a tummy bug (diarrhoea or vomiting) they must stay at home for 48 hours after the final episode.

### **Illness – COVID**

Children will get colds and sniffles this term but we all need to work together to keep everyone safe at this time. If your child develops a high temperature or has a new continuous cough, we will ask you to collect them from school immediately. We will also ask you to arrange a test for your child. Children can return to school if they have a negative COVID test but we will need to see evidence of a negative test before your child comes back. If you choose not to test, your child must stay at home for 10 days. All other family members should self-isolate for 14 days.

Please inform school immediately in the event of a positive test. If your child does have a positive test, they will need to stay at home for 10 days. They can come back to school after 10 days if they are feeling well and have had not had any further symptoms in the last 48 hours. All other family members should self-isolate for 14 days.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/what-your-test-result-means/>

### **Site Security – keeping safe**

We need to know who is in school at all times to keep everyone safe. At the current time, parents and visitors can only come into school by prior appointment.

If you need to come into school you must come to the front door, ring the buzzer and make yourself known to Mrs Cooper or Mrs Darling in the school office. The office is open from 0845 every morning.

### **Parking**

Please could I ask all parents who need to bring a car to school to park appropriately, not on the zig zags or the grass verges, or blocking access for staff or local residents' driveways. The infant and junior school staff car parks are for staff use only and should not be used by parents for parking or turning.

### **Medical conditions**

Should your child require an asthma inhaler or an EpiPen in school, it should be *in addition* to the one kept at home and a medical form must be completed for school records.

If your child needs short term medication you will need to complete a consent form. Forms are available from the school office or on the school website under Parents/Medical Conditions.

In line with current guidance, no medicine may be administered by the school unless it has been prescribed by a doctor and is in the original packaging. We are not able to administer medication that has been purchased without prescription.

### **ParentMail - for new parents, or parents not yet registered**

We use ParentMail, a service used by many schools, to communicate to parents. The main benefit is that we are able to contact parents directly by text message should the school be shut for snow or any other emergency closure. New parents will receive a text from ParentMail asking you to register your details with them. When you receive this please follow the instructions for registration. For assistance with this please see the 'Help' section on their website: [www.pmx.parentmail.co.uk](http://www.pmx.parentmail.co.uk).

### **School News App**

You can download the 'School news' app to Android and iPhones. This links directly to our website and has a calendar feature which enables you to keep informed of forthcoming events and times.

### **Evidence Me – for parents of children in Nursery and Reception**

This year we are introducing an 'online' learning journal for children and families in Nursery and Reception. Many of you will be familiar with online learning journals from other settings that your child has attended. Parents will be receiving a letter with further information about this, but it really is an excellent way to link what your child has been doing at school with what they are doing at home. It will help us to work more closely with you and, if your child is less forthcoming about what they've done at school, it will show you what they get up to here!

### **Celebration assembly**

Friday afternoons are special at Turnfurlong Infant School because this is when we share significant achievement in our school assembly. As we can't have whole school or year group assemblies in the hall, I will be delivering this via Microsoft Teams and the children will watch on the classroom whiteboards. We are always keen to celebrate out of school achievements so please tell us when your child has earned a particular merit or award at a club or class, e.g. a swimming certificate. The award should be recent so that they can remember earning it!

### **Reading – Year 1 and 2**

At the beginning of term teachers will be listening to all of the children read in order to ensure that they will be given books that are appropriate to their reading level. We aim for all of the KS1 children to bring home a reading book by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Spellings – Year 2**

Year 2 spellings will be going out on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

### **PE**

Children need to have a named PE bag in school containing a T-shirt, shorts and plimsolls. All these items, as with school clothing, must be named.

Children are not allowed to wear jewellery to school, except for stud earrings. Children should not wear earrings on PE days unless they are able to remove and replace them by themselves. Children are not allowed to participate in PE lessons if they are wearing tape or wooden retainers.

If you are considering having your child's ears pierced, please wait until the start of the long summer break which covers the six weeks when earrings cannot be removed.

**PE days** are as follows:

<b>2C &amp; 2S</b>	Tuesday pm
<b>2H &amp; 1BS</b>	Wednesday pm
<b>All Reception classes</b>	Thursday am
<b>1IM &amp; 1R</b>	Thursday pm

### **Lunches/morning snack**

A packed lunch will be provided for those who ordered it at the end of last term. If you did not order a packed lunch, please remember to give your child a packed lunch to bring in each morning (Reception-Year 2 only).

The fruit deliveries for the morning snack will start again next Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Please send a piece of fruit in with your child until deliveries resume if you would like them to have something to eat mid-morning.