

Reopening of East Barnet School - September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We are very much looking forward to meeting your child in September, we hope they enjoyed the 'meet the team' video and feel more reassured about joining us.

I wrote to you in July to explain the plan to enable us to open East Barnet School in September, much of this plan remains the same, however there have been some minor adjustments so please do read carefully. The safety of our staff and students is paramount and we have been following Government guidance alongside advice from the local authority and from unions in formulating these plans.

In order to help your child feel safe, secure and reassured we will be running a thorough induction program throughout the week commencing Monday, 7th September. On Monday, 14th September all students, including Year 7, will return to a full timetable, but with staggered start times, breaktimes, lunchtimes and finish times. Please read **all** the following information contained in this letter so that you and your child are clear about the return to school plan and in particular to ascertain your child's specific arrival time.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school. In the meantime, please continue to stay safe. We wish you a wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing your child in September.

Yours faithfully,

Laura Coffill

Associate Deputy Headteacher

When will my child return?

We have carried out thorough risk assessments to ensure the safety of our students, parents/carers and staff. Part of the risk assessment is to ensure students are inducted into the building and understand the safety and hygiene measures in place.

As well as this induction, during the first week your child will be getting to know their form tutor and class members, receive a timetable and a planner, have a year assembly and their first East Barnet School photo!

Monday 7th September	Tuesday 8th September	Wednesday 9th September	Thursday 10th September	Friday 11th September
8.45-10.45 a.m. Forms 7 A,B,C,D	8.45-10.45 a.m. Forms 7 E,F,G,H	8.45-10.45 a.m. Forms 7 A,B,C,D	8.45 a.m.-1.45 p.m.	
12.45-2.45 p.m. Forms 7 E,F,G,H	12.45-2.45 p.m. Forms 7 A,B,C,D	12.45-2.45 p.m. Forms 7 E,F,G,H	All Forms, 7 A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H	
			*Photographs to be taken	

Will there be break time and lunchtimes?

For the first three sessions, Monday to Wednesday, there will be no break or lunchtime. On Thursday and Friday students will have a break and a lunchtime. Hot food will be served at lunchtime or your child may bring a packed lunch. No food will be served at break time, so your child should bring in a snack. We have students with severe allergies, as a result we are a nut-free school, please ensure the snack does not contain nuts. Due to the need for staggered lunchbreaks, snacks will not be served at breaktimes until further notice. Each year group will have their own space to be in and allocated time slot to eat at lunch, to avoid any unnecessary mixing with other year groups. Please ensure that your child's on-line lunch account is topped up if they are buying food at lunchtime.

Will the start and end of the school day timings be the same?

We will be staggering the start and finish times of the school day to minimise contact between different year group bubbles of students and parents/carers. Please be mindful of the slightly earlier finish on a Wednesday. We encourage, where possible, all students to walk to school and to only take public transport if absolutely necessary. Parents will not be allowed into the school building unless arranged by prior appointment.

Parents/carers may drop their child close to or into the school grounds but should remain in the car.

Whilst we want to encourage punctuality, to avoid unnecessary mixing, your child should not arrive before their allocated start time for the week commencing Monday 14th September.

Year	Start Time	Entrance/ Exit Gates	Exit time (Wednesday exit time)
7	8.30 a.m.	Front Gate	3.10 p.m. (2.25 p.m.)

Will the usual school curriculum resume?

At East Barnet School, mental health and well-being will continue to be at the forefront of what we do. The priorities for our students in their first sessions will be to establish any well-being needs, identify any concerns or anxiety they may have and adjust to the new style school routines and procedures. They will also have quality time with their Form Tutor/Head of Year.

We are proud of the broad and balanced curriculum we are able to offer students, and this will resume from Monday, 14th September, although some practical activities will have been modified for health and safety purposes.

In order to maximise learning in the classrooms, the normal sanctions and rewards will be in operation, staff will issue warnings as well as house points to students. These will be explained to your child as part of their induction.

Will my child be expected to socially distance and what hygiene measures will be in place?

As previously mentioned, children will remain in their year group bubble throughout the school day and movement around the building will be minimal. Where possible, students will be socially distancing. Upon arrival, students will line up outside the building in their allocated area, they will sanitise their hands on entry into the building, after a break/movement in the building, and on dismissal. Surfaces will be thoroughly cleaned throughout the day and classrooms will always be ventilated and supplied with tissues, bins and sanitiser.

The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach will be adopted with regards to coughing and sneezing and students will wash their hands after coughing or sneezing.

Can my child wear a face mask?

The government guidance states that the wearing of face masks by students is not necessary and that it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission when not used correctly.

However, if your child wants to wear a face mask, it will not be refused but it must be plain with no logos and only cover the face and mouth.

What should my child bring to school?

During their induction, students will receive their new planner and timetable. Exercise books will be issued in lesson time. Students are expected to bring their equipment which includes: a pen, pencil, green pen, ruler, eraser and reading book. It is also advised that they have a glue stick and some colouring pencils. Equipment checks will take place each morning as part of Form Time.

Our mobile phone rule will be made clear to students on their first day. Mobile phones should not be seen or heard in the school and if a student does bring their phone in, it must remain off and out of sight. Phones and/or headphones will be confiscated if this rule is contravened.

If my child/a family member is considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable, should I still send my child to school?

The guidance has said, in relation to the clinically extremely vulnerable people, that it is their ambition for all pupils to return to school.

Will school uniform be required?

East Barnet School Uniform should be worn. The usual rules with regards to eccentric hair styles, unnatural hair colours, false nails, false eye-lashes and piercings apply, so this letter should give students enough time to prepare for their return to school. We also request that students wear appropriate school shoes and not trainers.

Blazer
✓ Black with EBS badge.

Shirt
✓ Plain white and tucked in.
✓ Buttons fastened.
NO visible items such as coloured t-shirts.

Tie
✓ Official tie.
✓ Correctly fastened.
✓ Acceptable length.
NOT too short.
NOT too long.

Sweater (optional)
✓ Plain black v-neck.
NO hoodies.

Trousers
✓ Black and plain.
NO canvas or denim jeans.

Socks
✓ Plain preferably black.
NOT bright/fluorescent.

Blazer
✓ Black with EBS badge.

Shirt
✓ Plain white and tucked in.
NO sports shirts.
NO visible coloured t-shirts.

Sweater (optional)
✓ Plain black v-neck.
NO hoodies.

Skirt
✓ New maroon kilt (2 buckles).
✓ No more than 6cm above the knee.
DO NOT roll up skirts to shorten length.

Trousers
✓ Black, plain straight/loose fit.
NO canvas or denim jeans/ leggings or jeggings.

Shoes
✓ Black, flat, closed-toe made of leather or similar, rigid sole with low heel.
NO boots, trainers or canvas shoes.
NO sports company trainer style shoe.

Socks/Tights
✓ Socks plain black or white.
✓ Socks worn below the knee.
✓ Tights plain black/white/ natural.
NOT bright/fluorescent.

What happens if my child falls ill at school?

Your child should not attend school if they feel unwell and you should report their absence via the attendance line 0208 344 2113. We will have qualified first aiders on site, and if your child becomes ill they will go to a medical room, be assessed and you will be contacted.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus?

The school will seek advice from Public Health England or its replacement and the Local Authority, inform parents immediately and take any necessary action to ensure all students are kept safe.