

Dear Parents,

I am pleased that we have managed to open Bowes to more pupils since half term. Whilst our key worker and 'pupils needing additional support' group have remained open throughout, it has steadily increased in size and now being split into smaller groups, working with an increased number of staff. We have welcomed back children in Year 6, Year 1 and Reception and look forward to the return of children in Willow Nursery next week. We will be reviewing the part-time arrangement of Reception at the end of next week.



Well done to all the children who have quickly adapted to their new environment and routines. We have put in a number of measures to help maintain a clean environment, where children can interact with each other and engage in lessons, whilst maintaining a physical distance. We are enjoying seeing them all back and socialising with each other.

Earlier this week, you will have heard that the Government dropped their ambition to fully open all schools before the end of the summer term, whilst at the same time giving flexibility to schools to open for more pupils if they can. Following the recent development we will be considering:

- Whether we have **capacity** to offer further provision to additional year groups. We need to consider space and the number of staff we have given the limits on group sizes to no more than 15. Social distancing of 2 metres means we can only accommodate up to 10 pupils in some of our smaller rooms. This also needs to be considered alongside our expanding provision for key workers and 'pupils needing additional support'.
- The organisation of **transition arrangements** for the next academic year for all classes, including the bespoke arrangements for pupils with additional needs.
- **Home learning** and ways in which we can support further, especially for pupils not returning before September.
- **Options for September**, based on further awaited guidance from the Government.

I would like to thank all the leaders and staff at Bowes for the way they have all risen to the challenge of responding to the many changes imposed on the school since the start of the pandemic and for continuing to put the needs of the children first in all that they do. May I also thank you for your patience, support and co-operation and for working so positively with us during this difficult time.

Depending on rules surrounding social distancing, school may not return to normal for some time. However, our ambition is that **all** children will experience at least some education in school as soon as is safely possible. As parents and teachers, we know that children need to be in school to support their well-being and education.

As always, we will share any new information as soon as we can.

With best wishes,

Paul Barraclough	Gulev Karayel
Executive Headteacher	Head of School

Support for a Bowes Family

It is with great sadness that during this difficult time, a Bowes family have received some devastating news. Unfortunately, one of our Reception children, Jago, has recently been diagnosed with an inoperable, non-curative brain tumour. As a school, we have been in regular contact with the family and wish to support in any way we can. The family's only real hope at the moment lies in a hugely expensive clinical trial overseas. Jago's mother, Gabriele, has set up a Go Fund Me page to share the full story www.gofundme.com/f/j8gtg-dipg. We know the link has been shared amongst some of our families but if it could be shared widely on social media accounts it would be greatly appreciated. Gabriele, Jago and Jago's twin sister, Imogen, need as much help and support as we can give. Thank you!

Google Classroom & EYFS Home Learning

Google Classroom and Home Learning Packs continue for all children whether they are at home or have returned to Bowes. However, as there are many more staff now in school teaching 19 groups over two sites, teachers will be unable to respond as quickly as they have in previous weeks. We have a team who are managing the Google Classrooms during the week and they will work on answering questions and providing feedback as soon as possible. There will be occasions when your child may receive feedback/comments from another class teacher as a large number of teachers are now back at Bowes teaching a group. Work will continue to be uploaded on a daily basis to the Year 1-6 Google Classrooms and Home Learning Packs for Nursery and Reception will be available to download from the school website at the beginning of each week.

Year 6 Secondary Transfer

To our Year 6 families, if you need any help or advice regarding your child transferring to Secondary School in September 2020, please do contact us through the Bowes Office email address. We will be in touch with you where a secondary school requests to make virtual induction arrangements.

Current Year 5 – Friern Barnet School's Enhanced Arts Programme

If your child is currently in Year 5 and you are considering applying to Friern Barnet School under their Enhanced Arts Programme (EAP), please visit the Friern Barnet website for more details. The deadline for submitting applications and video auditions is **Wednesday 8th July**.

Diary Dates Update

For all the families who have returned to Bowes as part of the phased return, please note that school will be open on **Friday 19th June**. This date had previously been shared as a date that the school would be closed. On this day, we will close as usual at the following times:

Year 6 – 11:30am

Year 1 – 11:45am

Reception – 12pm

Key Worker – 12pm

The last day of the summer term will be **Friday 17th July**.

Term Dates 2020-21

We know many of you are having to rearrange travel plans and have asked for the 2020-21 term dates. These are the dates as they currently stand:

Autumn Term 2020	
Inset Day	Thursday 3 rd September 2020
Inset Day	Friday 4 th September 2020
First Day of Term	Monday 7 th September 2020
Half Term	Monday 26 th to Friday 30 th October 2020
Inset Day	Friday 27 th November 2020
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 th December 2020
Spring Term 2021	
Inset Day	Monday 4 th January 2021
First Day of Term	Tuesday 5 th January 2021
Half Term	Monday 15 th to Friday 19 th February 2021
Last day of Term	Thursday 1 st April 2021
Summer Term 2021	
First Day of Term	Monday 19 th April 2021
Half Term	Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June 2021
Inset Day	Monday 7 th June 2021
Last Day of Term	Friday 23 rd July 2021

School Photograph Orders

We are currently making arrangements for parents to collect their school photograph orders. All photographs will be available from the Bowes Road site main office on allocated days and times. We will share these with you shortly.