



THE BAIRD PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Principal: Carly Welch

Wednesday 21st July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the end of the year draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for your patience and support during the last 18 months – it has certainly been a challenging year for everyone and I really appreciate how our community has pulled together and supported each other during the pandemic.

End of Year Updates

As always at this time of year, we see some staff move on to pastures new. Mr Jessup and Miss Jones have decided to take up posts in other schools and I am sure you will join me in wishing them the best of luck in their new roles. In addition, Mrs Batstone, who has been at the academy for many years, has decided to finally take retirement and plans to spend more time with her grandchildren – again I am sure you will join me in wishing her well. Miss Hornsby will also not be returning from her maternity leave as she has decided to spend more time with her daughter. I would like to thank these staff for all their hard work and determination whilst working at The Baird.

Unfortunately, Mrs Auer will also be leaving us this year due to some changes to the Senior Leadership roles in school. Mrs Auer has worked relentlessly over many years to improve outcomes for the pupils at The Baird and has been a valued member of the Senior Leadership Team. She will be greatly missed by staff, parents and pupils and I would like to wish her well in her next endeavours. I am sure you will join me in wishing her well.

Information for September 2021

Term 1 begins on Wednesday 1st September, however Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd are INSET days and therefore the academy is closed to all pupils on these days.

Pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 return to school on **Friday 3rd September**.

Arrival Arrangements

As many COVID restrictions will hopefully continue to be removed in September, we will be returning to a more structured arrival and dismissal procedure.



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University of Brighton
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The school gates will be open for parents and pupils to walk on to site from 8.30am. Only Year 6 pupils are able to walk to school without a parent and no school staff will be present on the playground until 8.40am, therefore parents must ensure their child is not unsupervised before this time.

Staff will be available between 8.40am and 8.45am in the morning for any informal discussions.

Pupils in Year 3 to Year 6 will line up on the large Key Stage 2 playground. At 8.45am a whistle will be blown and pupils will be expected to line up at the silver fence. Pupils will then come in to school at 8.50am and the register will be taken.

In addition, pupils in Year 2 Kingfishers Class will also enter from the KS2 playground.

Pupils in Cygnets will enter via the Reception green gate and wait in the grassy area until 8.45am when they will enter into their classrooms. Pupils in Ducklings and Year 1 will enter via the Year 1 gate and wait in the Year 1 outdoor area until classroom doors open at 8.45am.

Gates will remain open for pupils until 8.55am after which pupils will be considered late.

Dismissal Arrangements

To enable us to ensure the safe dismissal of your children, we have decided to continue to stagger the dismissal times.

Parents will be able to access the school site from 3pm – no earlier! Parents should wait either on the KS2 playground or by the Y1 gate.

EYFS and KS1 pupils should be collected at 3.10pm. Collection points are the same as arrival points:

Cygnets – Reception gate

Ducklings – Y1 gate

Y1 – Y1 gate

Robins – Y1 gate

Kingfishers – KS2 playground

KS2 should be collected at 3.20pm from the KS2 playground. Children will wait inside the metal fenced area – please bear with teachers while they dismiss safely to parents.

Teachers will be available to discuss anything with parents, once all pupils have been dismissed.

Parents may walk onto the site from either the Parker Road or Elphinstone Avenue entrances.

Please ensure that if you are driving to school, you park considerately and do not stop in front of resident's drives, on the zig-zag lines or on the double yellow lines. This is for the safety of our pupils when crossing the road.

Staff will be available to direct parents who are unsure where they are going.

Attendance

All pupils will be expected to attend, on time, every day. As the pupils have had such disrupted education in recent months, due to the pandemic, we are eager for all children to attend as often as possible and will be aiming for pupils to have 95% attendance or above – this equates to no more than 7 days off across the whole year. All pupil's attendance will be monitored and formal plans, and fines, actioned where required.

Children need to arrive at school no later than 8.45am and be collected at either 3.10pm (EYFS / KS1) or 3.20pm (KS2).

If your child is absent, please ensure that you contact the main academy office to notify them of the absence, by 9.30am.

Uniform

All pupils will be expected to be in full school uniform in September. This includes:

- Purple sweatshirt / cardigan with embroidered Academy logo
- White polo shirt / White collared shirt
- Purple Tie (compulsory from Year 1)
- Purple fleeces with embroidered Academy logo are available for outdoor use only
- Dark grey or black trousers or shorts
- Dark grey or black skirt or pinafore dress
- Plain black school shoes or plain black trainers without markings or logos. Coloured trainers, boots or high heeled shoes are not permitted. If your child's shoes have laces, please ensure that they are able to tie them.
- Purple and white summer dress

Please be advised that children should not be wearing leggings, hoodies or trainers with any coloured markings on.

If children come to school in the incorrect uniform, we will endeavour to provide with a clean replacement to wear for the day.

Pupils should not be wearing any jewellery except for one pair of plain stud earrings and a watch. Pupils will be asked to remove any other jewellery.

We advise parents to ensure that long hair is tied back.

From 3rd September, pupils will also require a full PE kit including:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Plimsolls or trainers (separate to the black trainers which may be worn for school shoes).
- Navy blue or black jogging bottoms (for winter) with a sweat top in blue or black.

From September, we will again be sending home reading books; please ensure that your child has a book bag to put their book in.

Other equipment

Pupils do not require any other equipment. They are not allowed to bring in objects from home as this often causes arguments and we hold no responsibility for anything that goes missing. For this reason, please do not allow your child to bring in fidget toys, swapping cards or any other objects.

Mobile phones are not allowed for any pupils except those children in Year 6, who have written consent to walk home. Phones will be collected as soon as children come into school and returned again at the end of the day.

Meet the teacher

As we are aware that many parents have not had the opportunity to come into school in a very long time, we will be offering an opportunity to come into school and meet your child's teacher at the start of the year. More information will follow in the first newsletter.

Once again, thank you for your cooperation over recent months. Obviously at this stage, I do not know what September will hold in terms of Government restrictions therefore if there are any changes to these arrangements, I will contact parents via Parent Pay over the summer holidays. Please ensure that your contact details in Parent Pay are up-to-date.

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on office@thebairdprimaryacademy.org.uk

I hope that you all have a wonderful summer. We will look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Welch
Principal