



# Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Methodist Primary School

*Forgiveness Friendship Trust Justice Perseverance*  
*Communication Independence Aspiration Engagement*



15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope that you and your families are well and that this letter finds you well. It was a pleasure to speak with you all recently and the information you shared has been very helpful as I have started to consider activities and topics to cover with your children in September.

As a staff team we have spent a great deal of time making plans for September and considering how best to manage the transition of the newest members of our school family. We will still be bound by Government guidelines which mean that many elements of our school day are altered but we have carefully looked at how these requirements can be upheld whilst still meeting the needs of all children in the school. I have outlined below how the earliest weeks will work in terms of providing your child with the opportunity to attend transition sessions which they have missed out on in this summer term. I have also outlined how the school day will work beyond the transition week and the week of part time attendance, noting where some things are being arranged differently due to the circumstances we find ourselves in.

## **Week Beginning 31<sup>st</sup> August 'Transition Week'**

Monday- Bank Holiday

Tuesday- School INSET day

Wednesday- Two transition sessions will run on this day with children attending either session 1 or session 2, you will be notified as to which session your child should attend. By giving children the opportunity to attend in a smaller group it means that they can explore the environment whilst feeling less overwhelmed by the amount of other children in the space. It also enables adults to have more contact with each child allowing them to begin to form positive relationships.

Session 1 will run 9:30-11:00

Session 2 will run 1:15-2:45

Thursday- A whole class transition session will run on this day which will enable children to be united as a class which is an important aspect in beginning to build their identity as a class unit. Children will all attend between 9:30-11:30



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Friday- We will spend the day preparing the classroom and outdoor area ready for your children to use based on what we have learnt and in accordance with government guidelines.

### **Week Beginning 7<sup>th</sup> September 'Part Time'**

All children will attend school between 9:00 and 1:00, during this time they will take part in morning lessons and have their lunch before being collected. We always include one week of part time attendance and this is a common occurrence in most schools although some choose to do this part time timetable for much longer. It allows children to stay at school for a slightly longer period of time without the overwhelming thought of being at school all day. It also allows an opportunity for children to build upon the experiences they had in their transition sessions at school by slowly introducing more elements to their timetable.

### **Week Beginning 14<sup>th</sup> September 'Full Time'**

From this week onwards all children will be in school from 9:00- 2:50, the time will differ from our usual school hours of those times for any additional children you have in the school due to the need for a staggered start and finish to allow for social distancing between the bubbles of children we are going to have established in our school. During this week children will be able to use the before and after school care provision. Mr Way will be writing to all parents about this in due course.

In order to keep all members of the school community safe we are unable to welcome any parents into our school building in September which goes against our usual open door policy and presents many challenges and limitations to how we would usually manage transition to school. When dropping off your child each morning Miss Holness, Mrs Wiffen and Mrs Branton will be present on the main school playground to greet your children and receive any information you wish to share. A collection and drop off zone will be created on the playground where you can say 'goodbye' to your child each morning. We appreciate that this could be a worry for you and for your child and it is very different to previous years when we have welcomed parents into the classroom space whilst children have been settling but due to the current situation and need for increased limitations of people entering the school building this will not be possible in September. It is important to hold on to just how resilient young children can be. It is often the case that as adults we worry far more than they do and I have no doubt that your children will quickly settle into school life as our 'new normal' will be all they have known.

We are very much looking forward to meeting you and your children and hope that you very quickly, if not already, feel like an important part of our school family. These are challenging times for us all as we adapt to our 'new normal' and hope that you understand that whilst we have had to make many alterations to our school day and the way in which our friendly school runs the level of care and consideration that your children receive will remain the same. If you have not done so already you may wish to 'like' our school Facebook page as this will be another way that you can stay abreast of what is happening in school and will be another way that I can stay in touch with you all.

I wish you all a very happy and healthy summer holiday and look forward to seeing you in September.

Best wishes,

Miss Holness