



Head Teacher: Maria Maslin, BA, MA (Ed)

Battle Abbey Preparatory School
40 Hastings Road
Bexhill on Sea
East Sussex
TN40 2NH
Telephone: 01424 219674

29th May 2020

Back to nursery after Covid–19 nursery closure: Parent’s Guide

Phase 1 – From Monday 1st June

Phases 2-4 for Acorns, Little Squirrels and new starters are to be advised.

Dear Parents,

We hope you and your families are well. As part of our reopening plan we have created this guidance to help you understand the measures we have put in place and to answer some of the frequently asked questions.

We therefore request you to carefully read, understand and adhere to this guidance to help protect all of our families and staff.

Patience, tolerance and flexibility is key for the safety of everyone in these difficult circumstances.

Our safety measures:

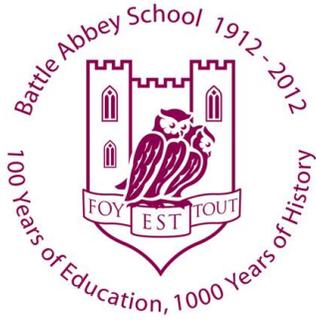
1. Drop off and Pick ups

Please expect to queue from 9am to drop off your child; the first few days are going to be the most challenging as children settle back in and get used to our new routines. The nursery gate is going to be open and monitored by a member of staff during drop off and collection times to prevent too many of you having to press the buzzer. If possible please try to stagger your arrival between 9am and 9.30am and again the pick up between 3.30pm and 4pm, especially whilst everyone is getting used to the new routines. If this doesn't work we will have to look at allocating drop-off and pick up times.

Please socially distance in the playground whilst you wait to drop off and pick up; I am sure you will be pleased to see each other but please continue to respect the 2m distance.

Please do not allow your children to run around together in the playground as they may be within different groups which we are calling 'bubbles' within the nursery. To reduce the risk of any infection spreading the staff and children are staying just within their own bubbles each day.

Please talk to your children and prepare them for their return to nursery so they are ready to come in by themselves without being distressed as we will not be able to physically take them (with the exception of babies). We recommend that the same person consistently drops and pick up the children.



We will welcome you at a social distance from outside the nursery entrance, there will be a trolley/container for lunchboxes and bags. Your child will be asked to use the antibacterial solution on their hands and then encouraged to enter the nursery back garden by choosing a mode of transport to ride through into the garden where they will then wash their hands once they have finished riding. Their transport will then be cleaned and returned to the entrance for the next arrivals to select from. We will have already posted a photograph of this arrangement onto their Tapestry to assist you in preparing the children for this new routine.

2. Cleaning

The nursery will have received a professional deep clean and 'fogging' before the children return and thereafter we will be undertaking regular cleaning procedures throughout the day to minimise the risk of any germs spreading. This is in addition to our existing daily professional cleaners who have always helped us to keep such a clean nursery.

3. Transport

Parents are requested to avoid using public transport where possible. We advise you to come by car, walking or cycling.

If in the unfortunate circumstance your only option is to use public transport then you will be required to adhere to the social distancing rules ensuring that you remain 2 metres away from others.

4. Use of the environment

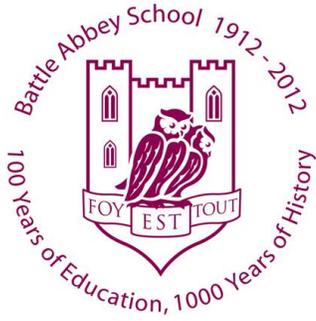
We will stagger our outdoor times and groups will remain within their allocated space within the nursery to ensure that bubbles of children are spaced out so that social distance can be maintained as much as possible. Children will eat their snack and packed lunch within their bubbles and we will be using the outside spaces as much as possible.

All social events such as our annual sports day, 'Big Picnic' at the Abbey and our end of term party have unfortunately had to be cancelled. We will try to arrange a suitable get together for our school leavers once this is possible.

5. The environment

It is vital that all our families and staff continue to follow the Government guidance on social distancing rules.

We will continue to provide care and education in small bubbles which we aim to keep consistent with the same adults and children throughout each day and week. (Size of bubbles will depend on the ages of the class and will not exceed the ratios of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements)



6. Hand washing

We will ensure our children (and staff) are washing their hands at least 20 seconds across the day, particularly:

- Upon entering nursery
- Before and after handling or eating food
- After sneezing or coughing
- After going to the toilet
- There is at least one hand sanitiser dispenser in each classroom and in our entrance.

7. PPE - Personal Protective Equipment

The children and staff will not be required to wear PPE in the setting. However, we do have a supply of disposables gloves, aprons and face masks and goggles should we need them in the case of a child falling unwell whilst on site. Staff will continue to wear apron and gloves for nappy changing and personal care.

8. Poorly children

If you or anybody in your family becomes unwell with Covid-19 symptoms such as a continuous cough, temperature or loss of taste and smell, then the whole family will need to access the Government's testing and check and trace facilities as soon as possible and follow the isolation requirements in line with government guidance. We have been assured that testing for under 5 year olds will be available from 1 June.

If there is a positive test within the nursery then all staff and children that have been in contact will need to follow the 14 day isolation requirements too. Parents would be advised in this situation and our whole school risk assessment available on our website has more detailed information.

If any child becomes unwell with Covid-19 symptoms whilst at nursery they will be sent home. Whilst the child is awaiting collection, they will be placed in isolation with a member of staff away from others until they are picked up. It is vital we are able to get in touch with parents immediately; therefore please ensure we have your most up to date contact details.

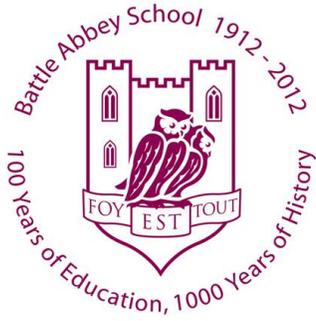
If your child appears unwell or is requiring Calpol, infant ibuprofen or antibiotics please keep them at home.

We will continue to administer prescribed medications for asthma and allergies etc.

Any children living with a person who is at increased risk of severe illness, or an extremely vulnerable person who is shielding from coronavirus, should stringently follow the guidance on social distancing and minimise contact outside the home, such children are advised not to attend the setting.

9. Meetings and Visitors

Face to face communication between staff and parents will be minimal; we will update Tapestry as often as possible and encourage emails or phone calls to support communication.



10. Clothing and Toys

Please ensure hygiene is maintained and that children come in with fresh, clean clothes daily. Uniform is optional for children and staff during this time. To promote your child's independence when toileting please ensure that their clothes are easy to take on and off and also that they have velcro or slip on shoes to limit physical contact.

All parents will be required to leave a clearly labelled bag with sufficient clean clothes at nursery. If children need to be changed, their clothes will be washed and replaced in their bags. These bags will be kept at nursery for the remainder of the term.

Children will not be allowed to bring in toys or comforters from home. If a comforter is absolutely necessary, a clean one may be sent in, however it cannot go to and fro home and will be kept at nursery and washed regularly for the remainder of the term.

11. Buggies & Ride-Ons

Buggies and Ride-Ons will not be permitted to be left at nursery until further notice. Parents bringing children in buggies will need to take the buggies home after dropping them off.

12. Sun Safety

Please apply 'all-day' suncream before your child arrives at nursery and ensure your child has their shoulders covered by thin clothing. We will be spending a lot of our time outside and will seek shade during the heat of the day as much as possible. No strappy sundresses/t-shirts or flip-flops please. A named sun-hat and water bottle must be supplied and will be kept at nursery.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Am I being charged if my child is not attending nursery?

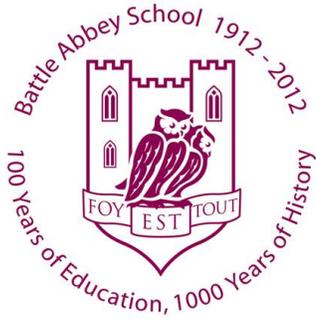
No, nursery charges will not be applied until your child recommences at nursery. Your child's sessions are still being held for the autumn term but please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to make any changes.

Am I the only parent not returning my child to nursery?

Every family's situation is very individual to their circumstances and lots of our parents have decided to take a wait and see approach before making this decision.

When will the Acorns and Little Squirrels return to nursery?

This is under constant review and relies upon us having the Oaks settled back in and the staffing capacity to safely open new bubbles. We will provide you with as much notice so that you can plan and also help by preparing your child for their return.



Head Teacher: Maria Maslin, BA, MA (Ed)

Battle Abbey Preparatory School
40 Hastings Road
Bexhill on Sea
East Sussex
TN40 2NH
Telephone: 01424 219674

Is it safe and will the children and staff be socially distancing within their bubbles?

We have followed the Government guidance and have worked hard to fully update our risk assessments and policies to protect our children, families and staff as much as possible; these are available on our website.

The Government guidance has been to create small bubbles of children and staff as children of this age cannot be expected to keep a social distance.

Will my child receive comfort such as a hug, a story on a lap and first aid for bumps and bruises?

Absolutely. The children's well-being and safety is paramount so within their bubbles the nursery staff will not be socially distancing and are there to support their personal, social and emotional needs as we have always done.

What shall I put or not include in my child's packed lunch?

Please use a washable, hygienic bag and containers that enable the children are able to use as independently as possible.

We will not have access to the full kitchen and are not able to microwave or heat meals.

An ice-block is vital to keep the contacts safe and fresh

A named water bottle that you are happy for us to keep at nursery and can go through out industrial dishwasher.

If a lunch box is forgotten you will need to pop one into us by snack time - 10am

Please label your child's lunchbox; especially as there may be duplication in the styles of the boxes!

NO NUTS please to protect those that may attend with a nut allergy - please do not send in peanut butter sandwiches.

Grapes, sausages and other round food that could be a choking hazard - please slice in half length ways.

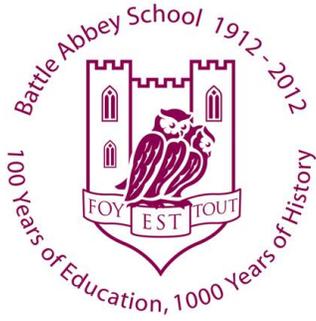
Please practice at home - can your child be as independent as possible in opening packaging and eating their lunch - a family picnic lunch in the garden would be great to help develop their confidence and skills.

A small snack such as a piece of fruit and rice cake for morning and afternoon snack times.

Please keep snacks and lunches as healthy; there is lots of guidance and ideas on these websites:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/the-eatwell-guide/>



The Children's Food Trust recommends:

Packed lunches should include:

- at least one portion of fruit and one portion of vegetables every day.
- meat, fish, eggs, or a non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, houmous, falafel) every day.
- oily fish, such as salmon, at least once every three weeks.
- a starchy food such as any type of bread (white or wholegrain rolls, pitta bread or wraps), pasta, rice, couscous, noodles,
- potatoes or another cereal every day.
- a dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais or custard every day.
- fruit juice or smoothie (maximum portion 150 mls), semi-skimmed, 1% fat or skimmed milk, yoghurt or another milk drink.

Packed lunches can occasionally include:

- Meat products such as sausage rolls, individual pies, corned meat and sausages.
- Cakes and biscuits, but encourage your child to eat these as part of a meal and not as a snack

Packed lunches should not include:

- salty snacks such as crisps - instead include seeds, vegetables and fruit with no added salt, sugar or fat.
- confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate-coated biscuits, cereal bars, processed fruit bars and sweets.
- sugary soft drinks, such as squash and fizzy drinks (even if labelled as 'sugar-free', 'no-added sugar' or 'reduced sugar' as these drinks can contribute to tooth decay and provide little nutritional value).

Helpful Links

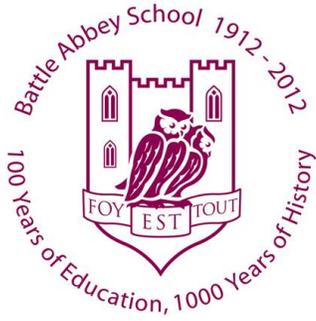
<https://www.battleabbeyschool.com/coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>



Head Teacher: Maria Maslin, BA, MA (Ed)

Battle Abbey Preparatory School
40 Hastings Road
Bexhill on Sea
East Sussex
TN40 2NH
Telephone: 01424 219674

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

Please note that the Government guidance changes regularly as this situation develops!

A massive thank you for reading this far! I'm aware that there is a lot of information to take on board here and that you may still have questions or concerns.

Please would you contact the nursery via email to nursery@battleabbey.school to request a callback or to raise any questions and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Stay safe and well,

All best wishes

Mrs Rapley and the Mulberry Team.