



Brighstone C.E Aided Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs R. Lennon

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Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Dear parents/carers,

Re: the reopening of schools to all pupils from Monday 8th March 2021

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on the evening of Monday 22nd February, I would like to confirm that Brighstone CE Aided Primary School will be reopening for all children from **Monday 8th March**. This, I am sure, is very welcome news for everyone, for the benefit of your children's education in school, as well as for their wellbeing and social skills, and we are all looking forward to welcoming your children back into school again.

The Department for Education states that, from Monday 8th March, **attendance is mandatory** for all children, except for those children who are confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable, who should continue to shield and stay at home as much as possible until further notice.

We understand that some of you may still have anxieties about your child attending school again. The safety of pupils, staff and families remain paramount, and is the primary concern in any planning. The health and safety arrangements that were in place in the autumn term 2020 will continue to be in place, along with some additional measures. These include the continuation of the twice-weekly asymptomatic testing of all staff using the rapid Lateral Flow Device Tests.

We will be in touch with more information once further guidance has been issued from the Department for Education and the Local Authority. In the meantime, our current risk assessment continues to be available on our website: <https://www.brighstoneprimary.org.uk/covid-19/>, which I hope will help to reassure you and allay any concerns. However, if you would like to speak with any of our team, then please do not hesitate to contact us: 740285; office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

While the majority of children are keen to come back to school, we are aware that this may be an unsettling time for many, and there will be a big focus on wellbeing and mental health, as well as redeveloping social skills, resilience and independence, when they return.

We will be writing to you again with further information (including details of practical arrangements) next week. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rebecca Lennon
Headteacher

Mrs Janet Craig
Chair of Governors