



Baldwins Gate CE Primary School

Welcome  
back!

# Information Pack for September 2020

Baldwins Gate CE Primary School  
Tollgate Avenue  
Baldwins Gate  
Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Staffordshire ST5 5DF

Telephone: 01782 680649  
Email: [office@baldwingsgate.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@baldwingsgate.staffs.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.baldwingsgate.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.baldwingsgate.staffs.sch.uk)



3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents

The last few months have been like no other. On behalf of us all at Baldwins Gate, I would like to thank you for your support and for all the life skills and experiences that you have given to the children. I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to you all.

I would like to thank the staff for their efforts and dedication in difficult times.

This welcome back pack hopefully signals a new, if different phase. It contains a lot of information. Please email your current class teacher if you need clarification on any points.

On behalf of us all, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our Year 6 pupils the very best at high school. They have missed so much yet those pupils in school have continued to smile and demonstrate a very thoughtful and understanding approach. They have been a lovely Year 6 and we wish them good luck.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'C Lowe'.

Mrs C Lowe  
Headteacher

## Introduction

The past few months have brought challenges to us all in many areas of our lives. School has had to operate in a very different way and we have to constantly consider government guidance and how we can get everyone back to school as soon as possible and as safely as possible.

We received government guidance yesterday on opening the school to all pupils in September and the purpose of this pack is to provide you with as much information as we can at this point. Getting all our pupils back to school is vital for their education and wellbeing.

There is news on the school's two classroom extension - the Church (the owner of the land) and the local authority (the owner of the building) have finally reached a compromise, subject to signing a final agreement. We are looking to commence the build in September with completion planned for February 2021.

Contractors on site and cordoned off areas will mean that we will have to review site access and arrangements but we will keep you updated at the appropriate time.

The school has continued to expand and prior to lockdown governors agreed to move to a single year group system in our juniors for the academic year 2020/2021. This fortuitous decision will actually enable us to have "bubbles" or "pods" of under 30 pupils when we return in September in line with current government guidelines.

A considerable amount of work on curriculum changes for single year groupings has been undertaken by staff. I would like to thank staff for their contribution and particularly Mrs Heathcote, who undertook this task during lockdown.

## Information for September 2020

- Pods or bubbles of 30 are recommended from September. At Baldwins Gate these will be formed from classes as detailed on the school structure table within the pack.
- Social distancing within pods or bubbles is not practicable but robust hand and respiratory hygiene will be prioritised.
- Pods/bubbles will **not** be allowed to mix. In this way any illness would affect one pod only and not the whole school.
- Each Pod will learn, play and eat together. They will have separate play areas and will have staggered start and end times. Lunch will be provided by Mrs Dale as normal but delivered to each pod. This system is currently in place and the children seem to really enjoy this social time in their rooms.
- For our current Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and key worker pupils the set up will be similar to that in place now but in September the pods will be formed of single year groups.

- We will need to create a classroom in the hall until the extension is completed in February. The use of the hall will cause some disruption during the Autumn Term but we will of course do our utmost to ensure this is minimal. Christmas productions and events will be affected.
  
- BUZZ Breakfast and After School Club will not open in September. The provision can only operate if we are able to keep children within the pods they are in during the day or safely distanced. BUZZ could only operate with mixed pod children which is contrary to guidelines.
  
- We are operating a one way system around school. You must enter school using the tall green pedestrian gate from Tollgate Avenue. The one way system goes around school and exists through the car park. One parent is permitted to enter the school grounds to drop off/collect.
  
- We will continue with the staggered start and end times to limit the number of people around school, detailed overleaf. If you have children in different year groups you should drop all of your children off at the time of the youngest child. You should then collect all your children at the finish time of your youngest child.
  
- Parents are not allowed in school. A member of staff will be located at each door to welcome children.

# School structure from September

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed Miss Sahiby as Year 5's class teacher for September 2020. Miss Sahiby will need no introduction to our Year 5 children; she spent her associate teacher placement with them. We very much look forward to Miss Sahiby returning to Baldwins Gate in September.

Year group	Staff	Information	Drop off	Collect	Door to use
<b>NURSERY</b> No change to classroom	Mrs Burke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EYFS practitioners</li> <li>Familiar with curriculum and early learning skills</li> <li>Paediatric First Aid</li> <li>Working towards Forest Schools qualification</li> <li>Some disruption to outside area during the build</li> </ul>	<b>0840</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>Green door onto playground</b>
<b>PINK POD</b> <b>RECEPTION</b> No change to classroom	Miss Cartwright				
<b>PINK POD</b>					
<b>YEAR 1</b> Middle Infant Classroom	Miss Gardner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previous EYFS practitioner able to design curriculum that children moving from reception to year 1 may need</li> </ul>	<b>0850</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>Green doors from the playground</b>
<b>BLUE POD</b>					
<b>YEAR 2</b> Current Class 2 classroom	Mrs Heathcote Mrs Roche	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mrs Heathcote and Mrs Roche will job share this group and both are extremely experienced.</li> </ul>	<b>0910</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>Green doors from the playground</b>
<b>YELLOW POD</b>					
<b>YEAR 3</b> Hall	Mrs Lowe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experienced!</li> <li>To ensure government guidelines are followed, year 3 will use the hall for their bubble until moving to the new build</li> <li>We will utilise the hall space and create a room within it</li> </ul>	<b>0900</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>Fire door into hall (next to Year 2)</b>
<b>PURPLE POD</b>					
<b>YEAR 4</b> Current Class 4 classroom	Mr Ahearne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DT and engineering skills</li> <li>Strong ICT and maths for year 4 times tables test</li> </ul>	<b>0910</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>Junior doors at the side of school</b>
<b>ORANGE POD</b>					
<b>YEAR 5</b> Current Class 3 classroom	Miss Sahiby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new member of staff - the children responded very well to Miss Sahiby during her student placement and she is highly regarded by the staff</li> </ul>	<b>0920</b>	<b>1530</b>	<b>Junior doors at the side of school</b>
<b>GREEN POD</b>					
<b>YEAR 6</b> Library	Mrs Lowndes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As it will be the SATs year for this group of children, Mrs Lowndes, knowing them so well, will be able to get them on track quickly</li> </ul>	<b>0920</b>	<b>1530</b>	<b>Library doors</b>
<b>RED POD</b>					

Welcome letters will be sent to all year groups from the teaching staff in due course containing specific class information.

# The School Day

The staggered start and end times, lunch time arrangements and staggered use of playgrounds mean the school day will be restructured slightly. The children will have a broad and balanced curriculum with the emphasis on maths, English and wellbeing. The daily structure is set out below:

## Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3

<b>Staggered arrival times</b>	Super skills
<b>Session 1</b>	Structured teaching
<b>1030 – 1050</b>	Break
<b>Session 2</b>	Structured teaching
<b>1145 – 1215</b>	Lunches served
<b>1215 – 1300</b>	Playtime
<b>Session 3</b>	Structured teaching
<b>1400 – 1415</b>	Break
<b>Session 4</b>	Structured teaching
<b>1500 onwards Staggered departure time</b>	Super skills

## Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

<b>Staggered arrival times</b>	Super skills
<b>Session 1</b>	Structured teaching
<b>1050 – 1110</b>	Break
<b>Session 2</b>	Structured teaching
<b>1230 – 1300</b>	Lunches served
<b>1300 – 1330</b>	Playtime
<b>Session 3</b>	Structured teaching
<b>1500 onwards Staggered departure time</b>	Super skills

### Note:

Super skills includes work on tables, grammar, handwriting and spelling  
The structured teaching sessions in the juniors are longer

## Key points

- The children return to school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.
- Children will need to wear school uniform and there is an expectation that this will be clean every day.
- We have put in place staggered start and end times to limit the number of people around school. Please adhere to given times for drop off and collection and please be punctual.
- If you have children in different year groups you should drop all of your children off at the time of the youngest child. You should then collect all your children at the finish time of your youngest child.
- BUZZ Breakfast and After School Club will not open for the time being.
- We are serving hot school lunches. In addition, you can purchase a sandwich lunch from the kitchen. This consists of a sandwich (cheese, tuna or ham), vegetable crudité, a piece of fruit and a biscuit). Please use ParentPay as normal.
- The children will eat their lunches in their classrooms.
- No morning break will be provided. Please send your child with a healthy snack (NO NUTS). Parents should bear in mind that the juniors have a longer morning.
- Please send PE kits to school and ensure kit is warm as PE will be outdoors only.
- Each year group in KS1 will have its own set of reading books and will be changed once a week. We will ensure there are lots of reading opportunities.
- Juniors can bring in individual books of choice to be kept in a tray in the classroom.
- We will not be swimming for the time being. The local authorities' swimming service has folded but we are in the process of sourcing an alternative provider.
- Your child will need to bring a full water bottle each day – please ensure they are clearly named.
- Please do not allow your child to bring anything to school with them other than their coat and their lunch (if appropriate) and, on warm days, their sun hat (please apply sun cream before school). They will be provided with all equipment which will be theirs to use.
- There will be no after school activities for the time being.
- We love our parents but they are not allowed to come into school. Please drop off/collect your child and leave promptly. We would ask that parents do not gather at the school gates or outside school.
- If you need to get a message to your child's teacher, you can contact them by email. The email system has worked well during the lockdown period and will continue from September. Alternatively, you contact the school office 01782 680649.

We have all had to become very adaptable recently and, looking to September, I do hope that you will appreciate the difficult situation we find ourselves in and the various factors we have had to consider, namely Covid-19 and the limitations that brings, managing the school during a build and growing school numbers.

As ever, we will do our utmost to support your children on their educational journey. We very much look forward to working with you and to seeing you all in September.

