



THE DEAN TRUST Blacklow Brow School

Chief Executive: Mr Tarun Kapur CBE
Headteacher: Mr Damian Kenny
Head of School: Mrs Jackie Williams

Dear parents and carers,

I felt it timely and appropriate to share with you some key updates and important information regarding the coming weeks as well as plans moving forward into September.

Educational Provision

As many of you will be aware, we have now been open to wider year groups since Monday 15th June including Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. I am delighted to see so many happy faces returning to school day after day which is a huge credit to the planning and preparation of the staff and support from parents/carers. If your circumstances have changed and you now require a place, please contact the school office and we will do all we can to support.

For those children who are currently still at home I hope you are all doing well and staying safe. This week, several members of staff will make contact once again to speak directly with the children. I hope this has been well received as I know the staff have really enjoyed listening to the many stories of lockdown. Education for children who remain at home will continue through the learning packs and online support via Dojo etc. Any staff who continue to work from home will be available to provide support and guidance as appropriate. If you have any specific queries for your child's class teacher please make contact via Dojo or the main school office. As the majority of staff are now teaching on site in bubbles each day, please bear in mind that the return communication will not be instant. Thank you, as always, for your continued support with your child's learning.

Transition

As part of our typical school calendar, this week would usually mark the start of our transition activities with all year groups. Given current restrictions, our typical transition process has been reviewed and adapted. We have planned a number of activities to ensure a smooth and stress-free transition for your child into their next year group. This week you will receive more information about this in our Transition Booklets. As part of this process, we hope to be able to offer a virtual meeting between children and staff in the very near future.

I have been working closely with Lord Derby Academy regarding transition. The Assistant Headteacher in charge of Transition at LDA, Mrs Ellis, is in the process of planning 1:1 induction meetings for every year 6 child, accompanied by one parent/carer. The purpose of this meeting is to cover, as far as possible, the information that is usually disseminated during the Parental Induction Evening and the Secondary Induction Day. You will receive an appointment in the post in due course.

Recovery Curriculum

We are acutely aware that our curriculum offers, once children return to school, will have to be carefully considered given recent National events. Already, as a Trust, a team of specialists are researching and planning what our "Recovery Curriculum" offer will look like.

Our "Recovery Curriculum" will aim to focus on 5 core principles. The 5 Rs:

- Routines
- Relationships
- Retrieve

Believe Achieve Succeed

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- Re-map
- Re-teach/accelerate

Re-establishing school routines and rebuilding teacher/pupil relationships is paramount to ensure children are safe and happy contributing to positive wellbeing. Once these have been achieved, pupils will then be sensitively assessed to give teachers an understanding of lost, and in some cases accelerated learning, over the time they have spent at home. This knowledge will then allow staff to teach specifically to each child's individual needs. The timetable has been remodelled to insist on an importance of the core subjects alongside the statutory requirements of physical education and religious education. Foundation subjects will be taught in a much more thematic approach whilst still ensuring all National Curriculum objectives are being addressed. This curriculum will be in place for the first half term only.

Staffing update

Provision is under regular review to ensure that the best education is provided for all pupils in our Trust. With this in mind, I would like you to be aware of the following updates to staffing as part of our ongoing collaboration across both Blacklow Brow and Park View Academy. First, I am delighted to congratulate Mrs Williams on an exciting new cross Trust role effective from September 2020. Mrs Williams will support curriculum development across all Dean Trust Primary Schools. She will be greatly missed as Head of School and we look forward to continuing our work together in the future. As a result, Mr Latham (currently Senior Leader at PVA) will take up a new post of Deputy Headteacher at Blacklow Brow School and also assume responsibility for the Year 6 class. Both Mrs Ferrigan and Miss Betts will remain at Blacklow Brow as Class Teachers of Year 5 and Year 1 respectively. I would like to thank them both for their valued contribution and dedication to the Senior Leadership Team during recent years. Furthermore, at the end of this academic year, Mrs Worrall will sadly be leaving us and moving on to a new post. She will be sorely missed by all. We wish her all the very best in this next chapter in her career.

Finally, it is with great delight that I can announce the wonderful news that both Mrs Schofield and Mrs Perkins are pregnant. I am sure you will all join me in congratulating them both on their magical news. I have already been able to secure a long-term member of staff, Mrs Porter, who will be covering for Mrs Schofield early in the Autumn Term. Arrangements for Mrs Perkins' maternity cover will be secured prior to her maternity leave commencing later on in the year.

Please see the table below for an overview of staffing effective from September 2020:

Year group	Teacher	Support staff
Nursery	Mrs Perkins	Ms Traverse
Reception	Mrs Schofield (Mrs Porter)	Miss Gerrard
Year 1	Miss Betts	Mrs Sergison

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Year 2	Mrs Kelly (Miss Jenkins)	Mrs Martin
Year 3	Miss Greenwood	Miss Goodheart
Year 4	Miss Marshall	Miss Jordan Miss Kelshaw (1:1)
Year 5	Mrs Ferrigan	Miss Heywood
Year 6	Mr Latham (Deputy Headteacher)	Mr Duckworth (1:1)

You may be aware that the government recently announced their intention for all children to return to school in September. Whilst the details have not yet been made clear around this plan, I certainly hope for this to be the case. Further information and guidance on how this will work are needed before we can start to make plans to ensure that our pupils and staff remain safe in the school environment. Until this time, we will continue to work hard to ensure that we support all our children and families. When any further decisions or plans have been made, I will communicate these to you at the earliest possible convenience.

As always, if you have any questions or queries please contact us via the school office or via our other media streams.

Kind Regards

Mr. D. Kenny

Headteacher

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