

Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

Federation Headteacher: Miss Z J Linington

Potton Road, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. SG18 0EJ

Tel: 01767 314562

E-mail: info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk

Web: <http://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk>



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Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of a very strange academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given to the school over this time of closure to most pupils. Thank you for supporting your child/ren with their home learning and I want to reassure you that "we'll take it from here". We know that all of you will have done your very best to ensure that your child/ren continued to make progress in its many forms over this time. We will map where the children have got to and move forwards, without delay, with their learning.

Edward Peake have chosen a 'phased return' approach to the new term, in line with many other schools. As our new year 5 have been unable to have their transition day, they will be the only year group to attend on Monday 7 September. Their teachers will be able to teach them the routines of their new school and move around the building safely and easily and complete transition activities with them. On Tuesday 8 September, year 6 will also return and then on Wednesday 9 September, all children in every year group will attend school.

You may be aware that schools are expecting confirmation of Government guidance on 11 August. It is likely that the situation regarding Coronavirus will change significantly over the next 7 weeks and so our initial plans may have to change. I will write to you again by 4 September, before pupils return to school to confirm safe operating procedures for having all pupils in school with no reduction to their learning time.

School Day

Initially, the school day will have a staggered start and end in order to prevent all pupils from entering the school building at the same time. This will be reviewed regularly.

Key Stage	School start time	Collective Worship	Break time	Lunch time	PM Registration	School finish time
Key stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)	08:40	09:00-09:10	11:10-11:25	12:25-13:05	13:05-13:20	15:20
Key stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)	08:50	15:20-15:30	11:10-11:25	12:40-13:20	12:25-12:40	15:30

Children who travel to school by bus will not be subject to these start and finish times.

All pupils will have 5 hours teaching per day and all pupils will have access to the full curriculum. There may have to be minor changes to some subject delivery methods in order to accommodate the situation.



Keeping groups of children separate (bubbles)

In line with Government guidance, we will be operating two 'bubbles' - one for key stage 2 and one for key stage 3. It is our intention that the playground will be 'zoned' for different year groups and facilities/resources will be allocated in such a way that cross-contamination between key stages is minimised. We do, however, want our children to experience the best that we can offer in terms of a broad and balanced curriculum and will provide this in the safest way possible.

Social distancing

Children will not be expected to practice social distancing from one another - this would be impossible with all the pupils returning. However, we are asking that adults remain as socially distanced from the children and from each other as they can.

Uniform

All pupils will be expected to wear their Edward Peake uniform upon return to school. Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and allows pupils to feel pride in their school. It also ensures pupils are not put under any pressure because of the type of clothes they wear and all are treated equally. It also helps prepare pupils for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work or wear a set uniform.

We are not changing our uniform, details of which have always been available in every child's school planner and on our school website but we wish to be clear on what is and is not acceptable uniform.

Please take note of the following details:

- Uniform should always be practical and hard wearing and provide children with proper protection from the British weather throughout the year. Pupils should come to school with an appropriate coat particularly in the winter months. Hoodies are not acceptable in place of a coat.
- Skirts must be at least knee-length. Tight fitting and skater skirt styles are not acceptable. Children grow throughout the school year and a skirt that is an appropriate length and fit at the start of the school year may not be so as the school year continues.
- Tights must be plain black or grey. Tights should not be patterned.
- Trousers should be grey, black or dark blue. They should be a tailored fit. Tight-fitting, skinny fit trousers, jogging bottoms, jeans or leggings are not acceptable.
- Shoes should be formal in style, medium cut (meaning below the ankle) and leather or leather like. They should be robust and have appropriate fastening: velcro straps, laces or buckles. Ballerina shoes, trainers, boots or canvas shoes are not acceptable footwear. Pupils will no longer be provided with plimsolls.
- All hair below shoulder length should be tied up. Large and excessive hair slides and headbands (for examples JoJo bows) are not acceptable. Pupils should not have dyed hair. Pupils are not permitted to wear makeup, nail varnish or false nails.

There are no different expectations for different year groups.

We need to support you in buying affordable, good quality clothing for school which your child/ren accept they have to wear because the rules are very clear. We want to make it easier for parents and help reduce any issues there may be over what is and isn't acceptable uniform.

There are a large number of stores in the local Biggleswade area who stock appropriate uniform and footwear. Many of these stores also provide an online service with next day delivery.

We will regularly check the uniform of all pupils as they enter school. Any pupils not in the correct uniform may be educated away from their peers for the rest of the day. This will continue until the pupil is wearing the correct uniform.

If you wish to discuss the individual needs of your child in regards to uniform, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. Please note that adaptations to school uniform will only be possible if there is a medical reason and is supported by medical evidence.

Equipment

Every pupil is asked to provide the following basic items of equipment for every lesson

- Black/blue handwriting pen (not a biro or cartridge pen)
- Pencil
- 30 cm ruler (non-bendy)
- Pencil eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Colouring pencils/fine fibre tips
- Calculator
- A4 plastic wallet for homework
- Water bottle
- Reading book

While the majority of pupils are well equipped, bringing in the appropriate items for their wide range of lessons, there remains a significant minority who do not bring pens, pencils, rulers, calculators etc. to their lessons. This results in valuable learning time being lost while equipment is being sought or pupils are not able to complete tasks because they do not have the relevant equipment to support them. Please make sure all uniform and equipment is clearly named.

Attendance and Punctuality

All year groups will return to school and attendance will be compulsory. Our attendance policy will apply once more. It is no surprise that those students who have excellent attendance and punctuality make far better progress and achieve better grades. There is an expectation that your child will have 100% attendance barring serious illness. For example, even 95% attendance equates on average to a child missing half a day of school every two weeks. This is roughly 10 days missed over an academic year; a significant amount of learning time lost. Therefore, every student should aim for 100% attendance as this will ensure they do not miss any learning. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and they arrive on time for the start of the school day.

Please make every effort to book dental and medical appointments out of school hours, or if this is not possible, an early or late appointment. In order to authorise the absence an appointment card or letter must be provided to the main office.

Vision statement

Live - Love – Learn

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you"

Psalm 32:8

The community of Edward Peake C of E Middle School share a vision for our young people. We work hard to make sure that our faith supports each individual at Edward Peake to flourish and challenges us all to live life to the fullest. We believe that pupils should enjoy their learning as much as their teachers enjoy teaching them and that everyone should strive to do their very best.

Live, love, learn - our guiding principles that children should be educated for life, contributing to their community regardless of their background and loved unconditionally, able to love others in return. Together we learn how to put our relationships first and reconcile if things go wrong. Moments of silence, prayer and reflection are golden times in a busy day when we deeply consider our values and how to live them.

We are determined that by the time Edward Peake pupils leave us, they will be confident and proficient in the core curriculum, independent learners, curious about the world around them and with a well-developed sense of personal responsibility. Our vibrant sense of community and our values-driven education really come alive on a daily basis.

Term dates 2020 - 2021

Autumn Term:	7 September 2020 - 18 December 2020
Half Term:	26 - 30 October 2020
Training Day:	2 November 2020 (Pupils return on Tuesday 3 November)
Spring Term:	4 January – 26 March 2021
Training Day:	4 January 2021 (Pupils return 5 January 2021)
Half Term:	15 - 19 February 2021
Summer Term:	12 April - 22 July 2021
Training Day:	12 April 2021 (Pupils return on Tuesday 13 April 2021)
Half Term:	31 May - 4 June 2021
Bank Holiday:	Monday 3 May 2021

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and peaceful summer holiday and I look forward to welcoming:

Year 5 Monday 7 September 2020

Years 5 & 6 Tuesday 8 September 2020

All pupils Wednesday 9 September 2020

Yours sincerely



Miss Z J Linington
Federation Headteacher