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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your interest in our school.

I know that the best way to decide if a school is the right place for your child is to visit and meet current children and staff. Unfortunately, due to the present Coronavirus restrictions on large gatherings and social distancing, we are unable to offer our usual Parental Tours this year.

This is as much of a disappointment to me as it is for you. I am very proud of Bagshot Infant School and always look forward to showing prospective parents and their children around the site to see our staff and children engaged in their learning.

On a typical visit to Bagshot Infant School you would see:

- An inclusive and stimulating educational environment
- Happy, motivated and well-behaved children
- Consistently excellent academic performance
- Inspirational and dedicated staff
- A rich and varied range of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities for children.

I hope to show you as much of this as possible remotely, by sharing our virtual tour ([click here](#)) with you.

I have also prepared a Frequently Asked Questions document below, which I hope responds to many of the common questions I am asked on tours.

There is also a wealth of information about our school, including; our curriculum, academic performance, Ofsted report, and prospectus on our school website, which can be found by clicking [here](#).

I hope that this information and our reputation in the local community will provide you with all the information you need to decide that Bagshot Infant School is the right choice for your child.

Kind regards

Miss K Aldred

Headteacher

Frequently Asked Questions

How is an Infant School different from a Primary School?

Infant Schools take children from Reception to Year 2 (age 4 to 7). Children then move on to a Junior School to complete their primary education, in Year 3 to Year 6.

How many children are in the school?

We are a two-form entry school, which means we can take up to 60 children in each year group. When at full capacity, the school has 180 children.

How do you manage and support behaviour?

Our behaviour policy focuses on positive relationships, setting high expectations and rewarding behaviours that we really want to see the children demonstrating. We give rewards such as *Dojo points* to children which, when pooled together, help the whole class earn and share a special reward – this may be an extra playtime, a pyjama party, or a games afternoon. The important part of this is that the children are supportive of each other when they are rewarded and work together to achieve the treat. We do not ignore negative behaviours, but these are talked about in a separate space and the child is always given the opportunity to turn things around and make the right choice next time.

Do you have any specialist provision?

Yes, the school has a special support centre for children with additional needs; they all have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). There are seven places in the centre and admission is arranged through Surrey County Council.

Do you have before and after school care?

The school operates both a breakfast and an after-school club, but neither of these are currently running due to COVID restrictions. We hope that by September 2021 these facilities will be available again.

What extra-curricular activities do you offer?

We offer a range of extra-curricular activities including French, football, recorders, dance, and gardening, to name a few.

Do you cater for specific dietary needs?

Yes, all children at our school receive a free hot lunch every day. We are a nut-free school, and our cook is able to cater for a wide range of dietary needs.

How do you communicate with parents?

We communicate with parents through ParentMail (emails and texts). Fortnightly updates inform parents of up-and-coming events and to send out any news. The school office is always available to answer queries and take messages daily. Parents can also contact the class teacher via a class email account. Parents are regularly invited to discuss their child's progress at parent's evenings.

Do the children have homework?

Children are expected to read every day at home. This can be phonics, flashcards, a book, or any form of reading within the environment. In Key Stage 1, the children bring home spellings to learn, mathematics activities and additional writing tasks.

How are you managing the COVID19 situation?

The school was able to open to reception and year 1 in June 2020 and our full reopening in September has gone well. We are following the Government guidance and our principle of 'classes, cleaning, keeping clear' means that children are in class bubbles; there is a robust cleaning regime in place and staff socially distance to reduce the risk of any infection spreading. We have a recovery curriculum in place to ensure that our core priorities of reading, writing, maths and wellbeing are supporting children to close any gaps in learning due to the lockdown.

Will my child have the chance to visit before they start in September 2021?

Normally we invite children into school in the summer term through a series of visits. Sadly, Coronavirus meant this could not happen in 2020 but we are all hoping that it will be a possibility again next summer. We work extremely hard with all our pre-school providers to get as much information about your child as possible. We also meet with each family ahead of your child starting so you can talk to the teacher about your child as an individual, their likes, dislikes, worries and special skills.

Do all Reception children start school together?

We believe short introductions are in the best interests of the children and their families. All reception children begin school in the first week of term, with a short-staggered entry according to their term of birth and then join us fulltime on the second week of term. This enables your child to be in the class in a smaller group initially and allow the teacher to get to know them.

My child is a Summer born child. I am not sure they are ready for school.

We are very experienced in supporting the whole range of reception age children, from those who are born in September to those who just turn 4 in August. The EYFS curriculum is from 0-5 years and we work closely with you, and the pre-school providers, to ensure we cater for all our children, whatever their level of development.

My child cannot use the toilet or dress on their own, can you help?

At school, we encourage the children to be as independent as possible, although of course we will help if they are stuck! Most children learn very quickly to become independent, but you have a vital role at home; practise with your child before they start school so that they are as prepared as they can be. Children are always so proud of themselves when they can be truly independent.