



# Beeston Primary School

Town Street, Leeds, LS11 8PN



“Promoting a love of learning”

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the first week back at school, I would like to reassure you that the children are safe and happy and that they are settling well with their new teachers and are following our new school routines.

I have been out on the playground each morning and after school this week and it has been great to catch up with so many parents. I do appreciate your comments, good or bad as we do listen and will always ‘tweak’ systems in school if we feel that any improvements will benefit your children.

There has been many new systems for yourselves, staff and pupils to become familiar with this week. Some systems have slightly changed as we constantly review our safety measures on a daily basis.

We believe that the new start and endings to the school day are now working. It has been a challenge to adapt them – especially for those parents who use the lower KS2 playground to collect their children from school.

As we all know, these are unprecedented times. As a Leadership Team, there is only so much we can do with our school building. We can put new timings and systems in place but we need all parents to take responsibility for their actions and help us implement these systems safely and sensibly.

We are not fortunate, like some other schools, to have a new school building. When Beeston Primary first opened, it only catered for approximately 150 pupils. Over the years, the school building has increased in size, which has resulted in over 700 pupils attending our school. Unfortunately, when they extended the school building, they did not extend the playgrounds or create extra entrances into the school grounds.

We have tried to make the best use of the existing building and grounds; however, it is ludicrous to think that we have only one set of steps for all of the KS2 pupils to walk down to get to the lower KS2 playground. In addition, we only have one entrance onto the KS2 playground, which you have to access through the Foundation Stage playground.

I am aware that due to our large pupil population, there will inevitably be large crowds, at drop off and collection times but being on time, socially distancing and wearing a face mask/covering should help us all stay safe.

**Headteacher Mr. N. Edensor**

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Parents have asked me this week as to why we are not using the field at the end of the day for collection. This is something we seriously considered, however it is a community field, on a slope with limited access. During cold and wet weather, the ground would become incredibly muddy therefore unsafe for the pupils and parents to collect from.

We did also consider three different end times to the school day, with half hour intervals between each collection time. This may have reduced the amount of parents on a playground at one time but if you have more than one child at our school, you would have had to wait for over an hour to collect all of your pupils. I know this is something you would not want.

The Senior Leadership Team will continue to be available on the playgrounds at the start and ends of the day all through next week, especially as we welcome our Foundation Stage 2 (Reception) pupils to their first full week of schooling.

Thanks again for your patience and understanding this week. Together as a school community, we can make all these changes a success, ensuring that everyone is safe in and around our school site.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the week.

Best wishes,

Mr Edensor  
(Headteacher)

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