

Getting ready for September 2024...

As a school we are once again in the throes of planning for September, getting ready for a new school year hoping that it will be as successful as the year that we have just had.

We cannot thank you enough for all of the support, flexibility and understanding you have shown over the last year.

As we know that many families are eager to get organised for the new school term early, we have included below some information that may help.

School App

Do you have access to the school app? Please ensure that this is updated as any essential communication for September will be sent via this. If you have any questions/queries about this, please contact the school office.

Walking Home

Children in Year 4 and 5 will be bringing home a letter before the end of term for permission to walk home alone (Ready for Year 5 and 6). If you wish for your child to walk home independently at the end of the school day, please make sure that this is signed and returned. All children must re-do this for September as we are aware that circumstances changes and we need to ensure that we have the most up to date information.

All children (other than those that have permission to walk home alone) will need to be collected from the class exits by an adult.

Mobile phones

Children should only have a mobile phone in school if they are walking to/from school independently. All phones will be collected at the beginning of the day and returned at the end for safeguarding purposes. Children will not access their phones during the day. All phones are brought at your own risk and school will not accept responsibility for any loss.

Pencil cases

Children will not need to bring pencil cases into school. The school will provide every child with a pencil case and/or the stationary that they need which will be kept in their drawers.

School bags

Children will only need a book bag to carry their reading books and homework to and from school. These will need to fit in your child's drawer. Please do not buy large rucksacks as they will not fit in your child's drawer. These will not be allowed in school and you will be asked to take them home.

Lunchboxes should not be in a backpack/rucksack.

Uniform and School Shoes

All children will be expected to wear school uniform including appropriate school shoes that are black. Trainer style shoes are acceptable but they do have to be completely black.

Leggings/jeans are not appropriate school uniform.

All uniform and coats should have your child's name in to ensure that it is returned if mislaid.

Reception to Year 4 School Uniform

Blue jumper or cardigan (plain or with the school logo on)

White or blue polo shirt

Grey or black trousers, dress or skirt

Tights should be black

Socks should be black, grey or white

Shoes should be black

Year 5 and 6 School Uniform

Children at Balliol wear a slightly different uniform when they move into Years 5 and 6. Please check the school website for ordering blazers if you would like one or the alternative is a navy blue V-neck jumper.

White school blouses/shirts and black or grey school trousers can be purchased from a store of your choice. Girls should wear navy blue or black skirts, preferably pleated. The Balliol school jumper is optional for Years 5 and 6, but if worn, must be navy blue in colour.

Shoes should be black.

PE Kit

Children will be asked to come to school in their PE Kit on the days that their class has PE.

Nursery to Year 4 PE Kit

- White T-shirt and black or navy blue shorts
- Plimsoles/trainers
- In Colder Weather children can wear black or navy joggers or leggings and a plain black or blue sweatshirt or school jumper.

Years 5 and 6 PE Kit

Please check the school website. The PE Kit directly from Prestige Design for delivery directly to your home. Alternatively the children can wear a white t-shirt and black joggers.

In Colder Weather children can wear black or navy joggers or leggings and a plain black or blue sweatshirt or school jumper.

Without correct PE kit, children will not be able to take part in wider PE activities.

Water bottles

All children should have a water bottle in school. This should be freshly filled and cleaned daily. This should contain only water.

Snacks

In Early Years, Year 1 and 2 all children will be provided with a fresh fruit or vegetable snack each day.

In Key stage 2 children are allowed to bring a healthy snack for break time. This should be separate to any lunch items. The snack should be either a piece of fruit/vegetable or a breakfast/cereal bar or alternative.

Crisps and chocolate bars are not appropriate and children will not be allowed to eat these at break time.

Sweets and chewing gum are not allowed in school. If these are brought in, the class teacher will keep them safe and hand them back to an adult at the end of the school day.

School timings

Monday to Thursday

AM: Gates open at 8.30 and school day starts at 8.35. Gates will close at 8.40.

PM: Gates open at 3.25 and the school day ends at 3.30. Gates will close at 3.40

Friday

AM: Gates open at 8.30 and school day starts at 8.35. Gates will close at 8.40.

PM: gates open at 1.20 and the school day ends at 1.25pm. Gates Close at 1.35pm

Friday provision: Gates open 3pm and Close at 3.15pm

Friday Provision

A google form will be sent out to all parents in September to book Friday Provision if required.

Spaces are limited and should only be used where there is no alternative. This provision is for parents who are at work/college on Friday afternoon only. We may ask for proof of working/college if we are oversubscribed.

School Lunches

From September we will have a new school lunch provider. This will be Aspens. As part of this change, we will be moving to an online ordering system. This will give you the opportunity to be able to order any meals at home before the school day.

As this system is new, it will require you to sign up and the details for this will be sent out next week and over the summer break before the start of the new term – please look out for this.

This will also be a new payment system using Parent Pay.