



The Bliss Charity School

Endowed 1674 Northamptonshire

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Tuesday 19th May 2020

Dear parents/carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

As schools are currently closed to most pupils and will not be open fully for some time, we have had to re-think our transition process for new starters. Usually, we would hold an induction evening for parents in mid-June, followed by transition mornings and afternoons for the children to come and see us in school and home visits to discuss your child's needs. However, since social distancing guidelines prevent our normal timetable going ahead as planned, we have made alternative arrangements to ensure you and your child have the support that is needed to make a successful start in September.

Inside this new starter pack, please find:

1. *Induction Booklet*
2. *Forms to be returned*
3. *School information leaflets*
4. *A gift for your child!*

1. Induction booklet

In place of our traditional welcome evening, we have produced an induction booklet that contains all of the information that would have been shared with you face-to-face. This includes an overview of our early years, topic-based curriculum and key classroom information and routines, as well as ideas for how to support your child in readiness for school. In addition to this booklet, school staff have recorded a short video for the children, introducing themselves and parts of the school building so your child is familiar with key faces and places before we meet them in person. Please visit the 'New Starters – September 2020' page on our school website to watch the film: <https://www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/index.php/parents/new-starters-september-2020>

2. Forms to be returned

There are a number of forms for you to complete, including data collection, photographic consent, home-School agreement, child collection information, village walk permission and uniform order. Also, there is an 'All About Me' booklet for you to complete with your child. We have provided a school-addressed envelope for you to post or hand-deliver the forms and the 'All About Me' booklet back to us – please return these forms by Friday 19th June 2020.

3. School information leaflets

Our school website holds all of the information that parents require (<https://www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/>). However, we have printed some key leaflets for you to be familiar with before your child starts school at Bliss, including the parent code of conduct, uniform expectations, free milk information and house group allocations.

NB. Please make sure you are aware of your child's house group when ordering uniform. Also, please do not order a book bag as we will provide this for your child as a special starting school gift!

4. A gift for your child

As a welcome gift from us to your child, please find a wrapped present in this new starter pack! There is a short letter from Mrs. Caller to your child inside the wrapping paper.



Head Teacher: Mr S. Carter
Bursar: Ms L. Adey



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Alternative home visits

So that you can share important information about your child's early development and individual needs, this year we are offering telephone calls or virtual meetings (over *Zoom*) in place of our traditional home visits. Mrs. Caller will discuss your preferred way of holding this meeting and timetable a slot for this discussion.

Finally

While we are still hoping that it may be possible to invite new starters into school before the summer holidays for a taster session (possibly in July), this may not be possible. If it is the case that face-to-face transition with the children cannot take place before September, please be assured that our experienced reception staff will allocate sufficient time and resources to induction in the autumn.

At present we plan to begin the new school year as usual – please see the induction booklet for the September start dates (Mrs. Caller will also discuss these with you and let you which morning/afternoon group your child is in). However, should social distancing guidelines prevent us from beginning the new school year in this way, we will share our contingency plan with you in the summer.

Should you have any questions about this new starter pack or any of the arrangements outlined in this letter, please contact Mrs. Caller directly via email (s.caller@bliss.northants.sch.uk).

Yours faithfully,

Mr S. Carter

Mr. S. Carter
(Headteacher)



Head Teacher: Mr S. Carter
Bursar: Ms L. Adey