



# Update

## **Important Issues for Year 2015/2016**

**Keeping our Children Safe** I would remind all parents of our policy NOT TO BRING CARS INTO THE SCHOOL GROUND. I realise it is very tempting to drive in because of the congestion at the various pick up/drop off points around the school but this could very easily put our children at risk. **One or two parents with disabilities will be allowed into the staff car park. These parents will be issued with a special card (Please come into the office if this is required).** Thank you for your support Already in this matter.

**Healthy Eating** This is the fifteen year of our Healthy Eating Break-time Policy. We ask you to continue to support the school's policy by sending only fruit/veg or hard cheese. Do not be fooled by so called healthy snack bars etc. which are high in sugar/salt or fat!



**Uniform** At our whole school assembly on Friday, our pupils looked absolutely fantastic in their school uniforms. Every pupil was dressed appropriately and in keeping with our 'Uniform Policy'. My thanks to parents! It would be great if we could maintain this high standard throughout the year.

**Mobile Phones** The Staff and I continue to give much thought to pupils bringing mobile phones to school. Phones have become much more sophisticated with cameras, video and internet access, etc. We feel that under 'Child Protection laws' and 'Health and Safety', mobile phones **SHOULD NOT** be brought to school. If a parent needs to contact their child about an urgent matter or change of arrangements, it should be done through the school office – 028 71 343864. This policy will be renewed annually and discussed with our Board of Governors.

**Free School Meals Entitlement** The entitlement of 'Free School Meals' is used as an indicator by the Department of Education to help fund schools.

- Free School Meals is used to bench mark standards across schools.
- Free School Meals may be an important part of your child's application to a Post-Primary School.

If you think that your child qualifies for Free School Meals, then contact the School Office (for an application form) or download one from the Education Authority Website on ([www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk)) asking for 'Application for Free School Meals/Clothing Allowance). The full cost of a pupil's school meal this year is £2.40 per day (for nursery children) and £2.50 per day (Yr1-7). A copy of the school menu has already been distributed to all children or can be obtained from the school office or alternatively downloaded from our school website on [www.ebringtonps.schoolwebdesign.net](http://www.ebringtonps.schoolwebdesign.net)

**Breakfast Club** The school runs and supports a very successful 'Breakfast Club'. There will be the usual breakfast specials which will be keenly priced – Other individual items are also available at extra cost. Parents, pupils and staff are all welcome to come along and enjoy a light breakfast and a chat before the pressures of the day take over. (More detailed letter to follow).

**Starting Times/School Bell** Staff are responsible for their classes from **8.40 am** each morning. School commences at **8.55 am** with the first bell sounding at **8.50 am** and the second at **8.55 am**. All parents should vacate the premises at these times. The following **NORMAL** finishing times will then apply.

Nursery	-	Collection between 1.30 and 1.45 pm
Year 1	-	2.00 pm
Year 2 (Term 1)	-	2.00 pm
(Terms 2 & 3)	-	3.00 pm <b>(please notice change)</b>
Year 3 – 7	-	3.00 pm

**Attendance** The Department of Education has made ‘Attendance’ a Key Priority for the coming year. All schools must draw up an ‘Attendance Policy’ and ‘Attendance Targets’. It is now the responsibility of every school to have in place a clear strategy and procedures for promoting attendance along with clearly defined attendance targets. The Department has also produced a guidance leaflet for parents.

One area which the Department is clearly looking into is FAMILY HOLIDAYS during term time. We hop all our pupils attend regularly and maintain a pattern of good attendance throughout the year. (Further details to follow).

**Social Networking/Parental Complaints Procedure** Many schools are concerned about the potential misuse of social networking sites. The school fully appreciates that this is the ‘Facebook Generation’ and for many teachers and parents – social networking is a way of life. However, we do not expect staff to be unprofessional in their use of social network sites. In the same way, we hope parents will not post unpleasant or abusive comments about the school or members of our school community.



The school has a robust ‘Complaints Procedure’ and we would hope that the relationship Ebrington has with parents and the local community would ensure that we would clearly address legitimate concerns about the school via the appropriate and established channels – ‘The Complaints Procedure’.

Currently on website:

- Parental Complaints Policy,
- Afterschool’s Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Uniform Policy

**After School’s Care Club** Our After School’s Club is now up and running on a daily basis. Parents who wish their children to avail of this facility should report to Mrs Lisa Brown (After School’s Co-ordinator) on Friday afternoon between (2-4 pm) at the After School Mobile Classroom, with a booking form (available to download from school website) or outside each classroom – (all bookings must be made a week in advance).



**Appointments** Children who need to attend appointments during the school day **MUST** be collected **ONLY** from the main office area and signed out by the accompanying adult. Pupils and adults must return via the same area and the child signed back in again. **Information should be sent to the teacher prior to the appointment** we will endeavour to have the child waiting for collection.

The same process applies if a child arrives late in the morning or takes ill and requires to go home during the school day.

**GATES AND ENTRANCES** Once all our Nursery Pupils are in attendance full time, the gates leading from the play park at Roulstone Avenue will be closed from 9.00 am until 1.15 pm each day (from the end of September), to ensure the safety of everyone. When bringing children to school in the morning or collecting them in the afternoon, please use the appropriate entrance adjacent to your child's classroom.

Back to School



**The main front door entrance into the school office should only be used if a child arrives late and requires signing in as all other doors will be locked.**

## Ebrington Primary School



## A Listening School

## Important Dates in September

Dates	Event	Time
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 2 Curriculum Evening	7.30 pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 4 Curriculum Evening	7.30 pm
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5 Curriculum Evening	7.30 pm
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Curriculum Evening	7.30 pm
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 1 Curriculum Evening	7.30 pm
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Nursery Curriculum Evening	7.30 pm

Thank you for your understanding on all the above issues.



W N Dougherty  
Principal