



**Broadmeadow Community National School**

*Pobalscoil Náisiúnta an Mhóinéir Leathana*

**Rathbeale Rd.,**

**Swords,**

**Co. Dublin.**

**Roll: 20529J**



# Welcome Pack for Parents

## 2019 – 2020

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

At Broadmeadow Community National School, we will do everything with our school motto in mind – **Connect, Create, Explore, Empathise**. We hope to create meaningful and collaborative connections with you, the parent and develop relationships between the staff, children and parents. The children will be encouraged to engage with school in a creative and exploratory manner with the acknowledgment that we all learn in different ways. Finally we hope to develop the school community's ability to 'step into another person's shoes' in developing empathy and respect for the perspectives of others.

The vision of this CNS is one which promotes an **inclusive, welcoming, calm, happy and creative environment**. Members of the school community can **express** themselves respectfully and develop **connections, relationships** and a deep **sense of belonging**.

We will foster the values of **Respect, Empathy, Fairness, Integrity, Accountability, trust, Collaboration**.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of our new parents, guardians and pupils when our school opens in August.

Principal







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## 1. Broadmeadow CNS Code of Positive Behaviour

The school's Code of Positive Behaviour is available on our school's website. It is important that parents read the Code and explain the expectations to their children. The purpose of the code is to outline the approach to preventing and reacting to, negative behaviours which may be in contradiction to our school's vision.

The school will be adopting a **Restorative** approach to behaviour management. Restorative practice is based on the idea that the best way to help someone who has done wrong is to give them the opportunity to put things right.

At its most basic, restorative practices improve the quality of relationships we have. Using this approach can both avoid and minimise conflict, and help us to manage it better when it does arise. More specifically, restorative practices have been found to reduce school exclusions, improve staff sickness rates, reduce tensions in the work place, and give people greater confidence in managing difficult situations.

Staff will use conversation and conferencing to deal with conflict. Conversations are framed using the following questions:

1. •What happened?
2. •What were you thinking/feeling at the time?
3. •What have you thought since?
4. •Who has been affected/hurt by all of this?
5. •How could things have been done differently?
6. •What do you think needs to happen next to move on from this?



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## 2. Preparing your child for Junior Infants

Parents can greatly ease their child into the life of a primary school classroom. Primary schools will be different to pre-school experiences but there are some things that will make the transition much easier.

It would be helpful if your child could:

- ◆ Zip their own coat/jacket and hang it up
- ◆ Fasten their own shoes (Velcro will help)
- ◆ Use the toilet independently, flush the toilet and wash their hands
- ◆ Tidy up and put away toys
- ◆ Open and close lunch boxes/drinks

**Please make sure that your child's bag, lunch box, bottle, coat, uniform etc. have the name attached in waterproof ink.**

Talk to your child about their first day at school and try to make the transition as normal as possible. Do not prolong the goodbyes on the first day. The finishing times for the children will be staggered for the first few weeks to help with the transition:

Day 1: 8.50 – 11.00

Weeks 2 and 3: 8.50 – 12.00

Week 4: 8.50 – 1.30





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### **3. Communication with School**

Broadmeadow CNS has a communication policy which sets out how staff will communicate with parents and how parents communicate with the school. The main ways for you as a parent, to make contact with the school is through phone, email or write a note to the teacher. It would be important to make an appointment with the teacher/principal as staff will not be able to give sufficient time as short notice.

School will make contact through a variety of ways:

- ◆ Through our school website [www.broadmeadowcns.ie](http://www.broadmeadowcns.ie)
- ◆ Through social media
- ◆ Via email (Please check your email regularly – the classes may receive their homework and other resources via email). A good idea might be to set up a new email address which can also be accessed by the child
- ◆ Notes will be sent home in your child's bag
- ◆ Parent-teacher meetings will be held twice yearly (November and late Spring)

### **4. School Payment**

The school will not require parents to purchase materials, books or stationary. All of this ordering will be done through the school. The **School Payment** for 2019/2020 will be €100. This payment covers all books, copies, photocopying, stationary, art supplies, printing, insurance and texts to parents.

The school will aim to be a cashless school as much as possible and this payment will be made through an online payment section on the school website. The only thing your child will need for school is a bag, lunch and uniform.

### **5. Uniform**

The school uniform for junior infants and senior infants consists of:

- ◆ Green tracksuit top and bottoms (with the school crest)



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(This is available from O'Farrell School wear, Swords)

- ◆ White polo shirt
- ◆ Plain runners

A formal school uniform is **optional** for infants (compulsory for 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class)

- ◆ Green jumper with crest (From O' Farrell School wear)
- ◆ White shirt
- ◆ Grey pants/pinafore
- ◆ White socks/tights
- ◆ Black shoes
- ◆ Green tie (From O' Farrell School wear)

## **Lunches**

Children will have a break at 10.30 for 15 minutes and lunch at 12.10 for 20 minutes. We will be promoting healthy eating right from the beginning. Fruit, sandwiches and water would be preferable. Please do not give your child bars, biscuits, lollipops, fizzy drinks or crisps. Please also avoid Capri-sun and Frubes as these can cause a mess in the class, particularly with younger children. A healthy eating policy will be developed with the parents and children.

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

Attendance at school is essential if your child is to benefit fully from the activities. Children should not miss days unnecessarily. If a child is absent due to illness or otherwise, **a written explanation is needed by the school.**

School begins at 8.50 a.m. Children will be allowed into the yard from 8.40 a.m. For the first week, the children will be brought straight into the classroom.

Children will usually finish school at 1.30p.m but **for the first two weeks they will be finishing at 12 pm.**





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## Cameras and Phones

We ask that parents, guardians and visitors refrain from the use of cameras and/or mobile phones on school grounds during normal day interactions. Exceptions will be made for special occasions and performances. There will be an acceptable use policy drafted to guide the school community on the use of devices on school grounds.

The school may wish to take photographs of children during the school day to use on our social media and website. **If you do not wish** for your child's photograph to be used for these purposes, please let the teacher know.

## Policies

School policies allow for the smooth running of a school and as a guideline to parents, children and staff on the acceptable approaches taken in the school. Many school policies will be developed over the coming 10 years but the policies which are available to parents at the moment are:

- ◆ Code of Positive behaviour
- ◆ Admissions Policy



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## School Calendar 2019.2020

Aug 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

28<sup>th</sup> August – Start Date (10 – 12 pm)

Sep 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

29<sup>th</sup> August – 13<sup>th</sup> September – Infants in 8.50-12pm

Oct 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

25<sup>th</sup> October – School closes for midterm break

Nov 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

School reopens 4<sup>th</sup> November

Dec 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

20<sup>th</sup> December – School Closes 12.00 for Christmas Break

Jan 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

6<sup>th</sup> January – School reopens

Feb 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

14<sup>th</sup> February – School closes (Mid term break)  
 24<sup>th</sup> February – School reopens

Mar 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

School closed 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March (St. Patrick's Day)

Apr 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

3<sup>rd</sup> April – School Closes 12.00 (Easter Break)  
 20<sup>th</sup> April – School reopens

May 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday  
 5<sup>th</sup> May – School closed

Jun 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1<sup>st</sup> June – Bank Holiday  
 26<sup>th</sup> June – School closes 12pm (Summer Holidays)

Notes						
School begins: 8.50am						
School Ends: 2.30pm (1.30 pm infants)						
Break: 10.30 – 10.45am						
Lunch: 12.10 – 12.30pm						
Other closure will be advised as they occur. Some of the above holidays may be held for contingency closures.						





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