



#### Whole School Information

##### Message from Headteacher:

I write to ask for your support. Brackenfield School is in discussion with the NHS Integrated Care Board for Derbyshire and Derby City, regarding health provision in Special Schools. This is a national issue. Due to EHCPs being written incorrectly, health information is not in Section G of the EHCP. As a result, Education funding is being used to meet the health needs of our children. This includes:

- Staffing
- Training
- Resourcing
- Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy (2 days each a week)

The ICB has proposed a new model to support schools. This has *not* included placing a school nurse at Brackenfield. The suggestion is that we would access support from a near by special school where a school nurse will be based. Given the health profile of our school, we don't feel this will meet the children's needs. To give some context, out of (currently) 175 children there are:

- 50 children who are incontinent
- 1 child with an NG tube
- 6 children who are gastro fed
- 2 children with diabetes
- 13 children with epilepsy
- 1 child requiring oxygen
- 1 child with a tracheostomy

We also have a number of children who require controlled medication to be administered in school.

As well as this, we have 18 children with NHS physio programmes and many other children who have gross and fine motor skill needs written into their EHCPs. 90 of our pupils have functional communication needs these pupils are being supported to make their basic wants and needs known and to understand the function of communication and to know what you can achieve by communication with another person. 78 of our pupils have expressive/social communication needs, these pupils are able to make requests but are working on expressing themselves through phatic communication and expressing more than their basic wants and needs, these pupils need offering a range of social communication opportunities to understand the purpose of this and that you may find joy in communicating/being with another person beyond them serving a purpose to have your needs met.

These figures do not reflect new starter pupils who are joining us in September, many of whom have complex health needs. They also do not reflect our hearing impaired, blind, visually impaired children, or children with specific genetic health conditions.

I have appealed to the ICB through the consultation to reconsider placement of a nurse at Brackenfield. As you will see from the letter below they are asking for parents to join the consultation. Please [click here](#) to view the letter.

It is really important that we have parental support during this consultation period. We need your support. Please register read the letter linked above and register your interest by emailing this link

[ddicb.childrenscommissioning@nhs.net](mailto:ddicb.childrenscommissioning@nhs.net)

**Video please watch:** [attendance.mp4](#)



Your child should attend school every day. Sometimes your child may be too ill to come to school. Click [here](#) for a link to the NHS website which has useful information.



The school times are from 8.55 – 9.10 drop off and 2.20 – 2.40 collection. If your child is not attending school, you must ring 0115 9733710 opt 2 between 8am and 9am every day to let us know why or in exceptional circumstances only, email [attendance@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk) along with any medical evidence as other inboxes are not always manned. If we are unable to make contact home visits will be carried out by a member of the family support team. Thank you for your support.

#### Holidays in Term time:

As a parent, it is your legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school every day.

It is only acceptable for your child to miss school if:

- they are too ill to attend
- you have got advance permission from the school

If you are thinking about taking a holiday in term-time, then you must put this request in writing to the Headteacher (Mrs Turner). All holidays will be unauthorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. If your holiday is unauthorised and you choose to not send your child to school, you may be fined. Fines start at £60 per parent and if not paid can result in a fine of up to £2500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court will also give you a Parenting Order.

Please use the link provided to inform us of a holiday request. This link is not to be used to report general absence from school: <https://forms.office.com/e/ECEey9uNSZ> We appreciate your understanding and support with this.

#### The class inbox email addresses:

Acorns	<a href="mailto:Acorns@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Acorns@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Willow	<a href="mailto:Willow@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Willow@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Maple	<a href="mailto:Maple@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Maple@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Hickory	<a href="mailto:Hickory@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Hickory@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Rowan	<a href="mailto:Rowan@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Rowan@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Conkers	<a href="mailto:Conkers@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Conkers@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Sycamore	<a href="mailto:Sycamore@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Sycamore@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Spruce	<a href="mailto:Spruce@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Spruce@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Pine	<a href="mailto:Pine@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Pine@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Elm	<a href="mailto:Elm@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Elm@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Oak	<a href="mailto:Oak@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Oak@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Cedar	<a href="mailto:Cedar@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Cedar@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Ash	<a href="mailto:Ash@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Ash@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Poplar	<a href="mailto:Poplar@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Poplar@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Beech	<a href="mailto:Beech@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Beech@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Laurel	<a href="mailto:Laurel@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Laurel@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>
Mulberry	<a href="mailto:Mulberry@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Mulberry@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>	Hazel	<a href="mailto:Hazel@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk">Hazel@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk</a>

We want you to feel supported and effectively communicated with, so if you feel anything has been missed please email [headteacher@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk) and a senior leader will follow up your query.

It is also important you can access posts on BOOP, for your child and your child's class. If you are having issues with accessing this, please email [pupiladmin@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:pupiladmin@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk). Our pupil admin team can talk you through how to access and help rectify any issues.



#### Join us on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 15:30 here at school or on TEAMS to join our PTA

Your level of involvement is up to you, but here are some of the main things the PTA may require:

- **Help with fundraisers:** Many PTAs raise money throughout the year for projects and improvements at the school. The PTA might throw a bake sale or car wash to raise money for the school.
- **Your opinions:** Your voice is important to help shape the goals of your local PTA. Feel free to address any concerns you have at meetings.
- **Commitment:** You'll get the most out of your PTA by staying involved. Meetings are usually scheduled in the evenings. If you can't make the meetings, see about getting minutes and try to make it to fundraisers and other PTA events.



### PE Kits

A reminder please that pupils must have PE kits in school. This is so that class teams can support with developing independence when getting dressed and undressed. Please ensure all items are named and stored in a named bag, which will be kept in school. If you have any further queries, please contact your class teams.



### Wow Moments

We love to hear about amazing things our pupils are doing at home! Please send in pictures or let us know what great things they are doing, and we can upload these to each pupils BOOP profile. You can also download templates to put your WOW moments on from our school website. Please send them to [parents@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:parents@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk)

### Family Support



**SAVE THE DATE – Marketplace Event**, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 1.30pm – 3pm in the School Hall (Please see the attached poster)

**Save the date:** Our summer family BBQ will be on Wednesday 17/7/24 15:15-17:00 more details to follow!

### School Uniform



Please visit: [www.schooluniformnottingham.co.uk](http://www.schooluniformnottingham.co.uk) to place orders. You will then be sent an invoice for payment, and once payment has been received the order will be processed and you will receive a notification when your order is ready to collect. Payments are made via bank transfer using their order name and invoice number (important) as payment reference.

**Container Self-Storage - Simply First Ltd**

**The Embroidery Pod, Unit 13, Block B, Ind Estate, Mark St, Sandiacre, Nottingham NG10 5AD.**

### Our School Day

Please be reminded of the school times.

Student Arrival and Registration	8.55 – 9.05 – Taxi drop off 9.00 – 9.10 – Parent drop off
Morning Session	09.10 – 11.40
Lunch Session (30 minutes within this time)	11.40 – 13.10
Afternoon Session	13.10 – 14.20
Pupil Departure and Pastoral Time	14.20 – 14.35 – Taxi collection 14.30 – 14.40 – Parent collection

### Attachments

#### Sign of the week:

Our sign of the week this week is 'Frightened' - [Frightened \(makaton.org\)](http://Frightened(makaton.org))

#### East Midlands Online Inclusive Choir



We very pleased to announce that we are continuing to run the **East Midlands Online Inclusive Choir** in partnership with Soundabout during 2024. This is an amazing opportunity for the young people with SEND (and their families) at your school to be part of a FREE online choir, celebrating that everyone has their own way of sharing their voice.

The Inclusive Choir is open to anyone up to age 25 and is free to join. . We aim to be as inclusive as possible, and actively try to remove barriers to participation from those with severe and profound learning disabilities. The choir encourages participation and expression in any way, including using Makaton signing, singing, making sounds on instruments, using technology or through movement and dance. (It is therefore accessible to pre/non-verbal participants.)

The choir rehearses fortnightly on Wednesdays during term-time 5.00 - 6.00pm on Zoom. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.

## Upcoming dates from the school calendar

### School Holidays:

We break up on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 12pm** until **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024**. School reopens to pupils on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024**.

[Please click here](#) for a copy of the **2023-2024** school holidays.

[Please click here](#) for a copy of the **2024-2025** school holidays

Please use the following link to view the updated menu: [Autumn & Winter Menu 2023 2024](#)

- ✓ All parents and carers welcome
- ✓ A community networking event to showcase provisions and organisations that work directly with young people in the East Midlands
- ✓ Come along and meet the providers to explore what is available to your family
- ✓ FREE Refreshments available



Brackenfield School  
Marketplace Event 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
2024

1.30pm-3pm  
School Hall

