

BURLINGTON JUNIOR SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs P Utting

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www.burlingtonj.kingston.sch.uk

2nd April 2025.

Dear Parents,

This is an incredibly exciting time for the whole school and also extremely busy. I am now able to share this letter which outlines how parents and children will gain access to the new school after the Easter break and also their classroom locations. The official handover of the building to the school will be on Thursday 17th April. Until then the staff or children are not allowed to go into the building.

From the 24th April, when all the children return, the locations of their classrooms are shown in the photo below.



We have decided to keep our Y3 in the ground floor classrooms. Y4 and Y6 will be based on the upper floors. We have split Y5 onto different floors as they will get their opportunity to be on the top floor during the next academic year when they are in Y6. Sharman class will be based in the link classroom in the Atrium. This will have all the same teaching equipment as the rest of the school. I've added an image of the room being constructed and also some of the communal space and toilets in the building.

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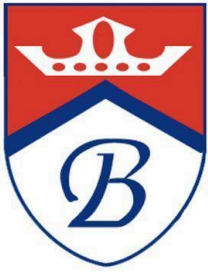


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From September 2025 onwards the plan will be that Y4/5/6 will be based in the new block which will be called The Hive. Y3 will be based in the Victorian block/current Year 6 areas which will be called The Honeycomb. These names were chosen by the children.

From September 2025 the current Y2 classes will go into The Honeycomb as Year 3. During the summer term we will decide which rooms the children (currently in Jupiter, Saturn, Venus and Mercury) will be in, but we have five potential classes as shown in the image below.



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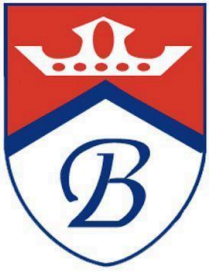


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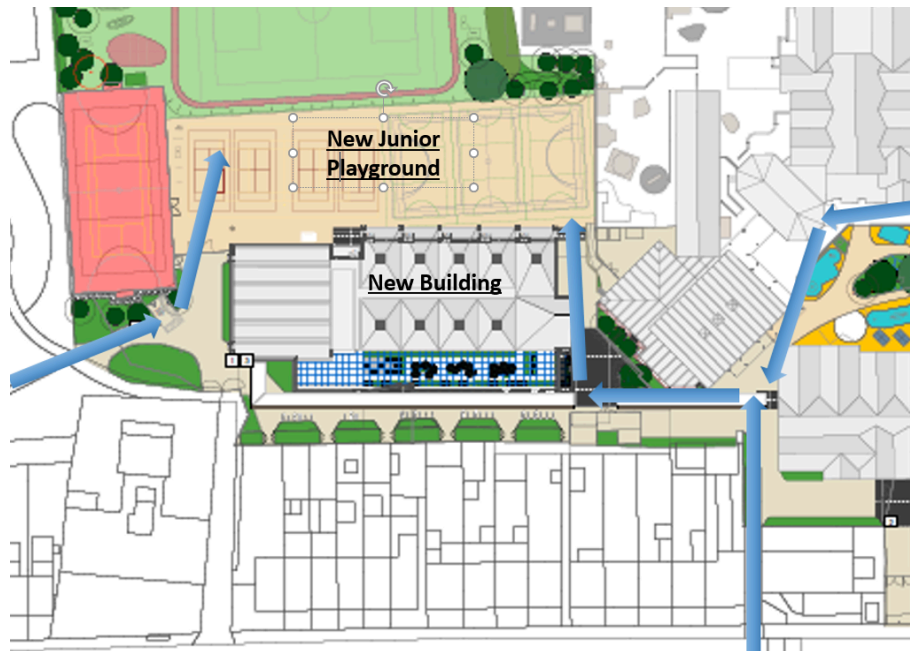
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Thursday 24th April will be the first day for the entire Junior school to return to The Hive building. This will be an incredibly exciting time for everyone. The children will be standing on a playground they have never been on before and walk into the school and their classrooms for the very first time. On this very first morning all teachers will come out to the playground to meet their class and escort them into their new classrooms.

The plan below shows the only three access routes, marked in blue arrows, onto the Junior site.

- 1) The brand new access gate from Blagdon Park
- 2) The Bridge gate which will provide a heras fenced walkway around the Victorian Block to the new school and access to the Infant school.
- 3) The Infant rear access gate which will allow a route past the Infant School office and onto the Junior Playground



From the very first morning Jemison and the Y3 classes will be able to go straight into their classrooms on the ground floor. Each of these classrooms has a door that leads directly onto the playgrounds.

The rest of the school will be met in the areas (shown below) by their class teachers, and led into the building. There will be lots of staff on duty on these first few mornings to help everyone. Children can mingle around as normal in the mornings but we ask them **not to go onto the field or the field play equipment**.

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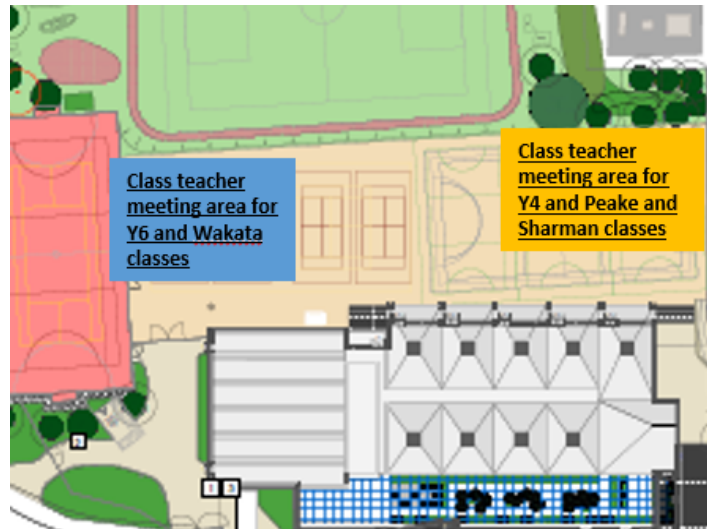
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When the whistle goes we will ask the children to go to their designated areas to meet their teacher and be led line by line into the building. At the end of the day the teachers will bring out their class to the same area to be dismissed. Parents will be able to walk across the field to drop at the Infant School after the Junior drop off, but the gates to the Junior site will be locked at the normal time of 8.50am.



During the first week we will develop our strategy for quickly getting the children into the building and also dismissing them at the end of the day. We know that parents like seeing the teachers, but it may be that after a few days we ask the children to walk into the building themselves with senior staff on duty as normal. However, we will ensure that all teachers are available daily during dismissal time to answer any questions and be available if necessary.

The first day on 24th April will involve pupil tours of the new building (as the children will have never been inside) and fire drills and other necessary health and safety requirements. It will also be an opportunity for us to test out the running procedures of the building while fully populated and make any necessary changes, for example to lunchtimes, break times and movement around the schools to assemblies and lessons.

All of the main 15 classrooms look exactly the same and have a small sink area and also a small cloakroom area within their class. There is a photo below taken on 1st April 2025.

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We will keep parents informed of any changes and update children in our daily assemblies. Once we have completed a few days we will have secured the best systems to avoid crowding in the morning, particularly on stairwells, and also after school at 3.25pm. Please bear with us during this time. We will also be offering parent tours to you all in due course. More information on this after the holiday.

I appreciate this is a lot of information to process, but I wanted you all to have something before the start of the holidays. We will be celebrating our final day tomorrow and allow our children to sign areas of the school which will be demolished in due course.

I hope you all have a lovely break and I look forward to seeing you in the new term.

Best wishes,

Mr M Blow
Deputy Headteacher

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