

Karen Dolton
Executive Director of Children and Young People



Our Ref KD/AB
Your Ref
Date 15 July 2020
Please ask for Karen Dolton
Direct Line 0161 253 5501
E-mail k.dolton@bury.gov.uk

Department for Children and
Young People

Dear Parents/Carers

STARTING PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2020

I am writing to you as Bury's primary schools continue to plan for the start of the new academic year in September 2020. We know that it is the government's intention for **all** pupils to return to schools from September but we recognise that for those Reception children starting school for the first time it will understandably be that much more of a sense of the unknown.

In order to address this the private voluntary and independent nurseries and primary schools within Bury have been working hard to further strengthen the transition of their pupils joining Reception in September. Starting primary school is an important milestone for every child but sadly in 2020 the transition arrangements for nursery children cannot be as they usually would be and it is for this reason that as a local authority we wanted to offer our assurances ahead of your child starting primary school. The safety and well-being of your child is paramount and we can confirm that all our nurseries and primary schools have robust risk assessments in place.

At the local authority we have heard of some wonderful and innovative ways in which settings and schools have worked to make transition in summer 2020 as effective as it can possibly be. Our primary schools already have plans in place for the start of the Autumn Term that will ensure that the new Reception pupils have all the time and support they need to adapt to life and the new environments we know they will be so excited to explore. Please do take the time to read the Starting School Tips guide alongside this letter and should your family require any further assurance or support ahead of September we would encourage you to contact your allocated school via telephone or email.

We hope you and your family enjoy a wonderful summer break and look forward to welcoming you in September.

Yours sincerely

Karen Dolton

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