Cranbrook Education Campus





(A Member of the Ted Wragg Trust) Tillhouse Road Cranbrook EX5 7EE Tel: 01404 823293 www.cranbrookeducationcampus.org.uk

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to a new and exciting chapter at Cranbrook Education Campus! We are thrilled to have your children join us for what promises to be a year filled with growth, discovery, and endless opportunities. As the new Head of Primary, I am honoured to be a part of this vibrant community that places a strong emphasis on fostering both academic achievement and personal development. The education of children is a shared journey between schools, families and wider community partners and we are so delighted to embark on it together.

The below information has been provided to support a smooth start to the first day and week of this school year.

Collection Points and Drop-Off Points

When it comes to dropping off our young learners, we've tried to make the process as seamless as possible with dedicated drop-off areas. For Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes, pupils can be dropped off and collected directly to their classrooms using the external doors. A detailed map has been provided at the end of this letter to support you finding the right entrance.

Year 3 and 4 pupils will enter the school through the doors near our graffiti-art wall and bike storage. Pupils will walk along the corridor and up the stairway to their classroom calmly. Year 3 and 4 pupils will be picked up from the main front playground at the end of the day where they will line up near the fences which are labelled. Year 5 and 6 pupils will enter the school through the main entrance and will be picked up from school in the same place at the end of the day. Photos have been provided at the end of this letter to support you finding these locations.

School Senior Leaders will be outside near drop off and pick up points supporting children getting to their classes and will be on hand to assist with any questions you may have, ensuring that your child is **ready** to start their day positively.

Supporting Reception Pupils' Transition

Please note that, for children in <u>Reception only</u>, from Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th September, if families feel their child will benefit from full school days from the start of term, we are happy for children to start full time immediately. However, we will also provide the option for children to come into school from 8.30am and stay until 11.45am if it is felt their child will benefit from more of a staggered transition to the start of the school year. During this first week, families will be able to come into the Reception class with their child for the first 10 minutes to explore and help settle them before leaving all children at school to enjoy their day. From Monday 11th September, all Reception children will be expected to attend school full time with arrival between 08:30-08:45 and pick-up at 15:15.

Lunches and Snacks

Nourishing young minds is essential for a successful school day. Dolce will be managing our catering contract with effect from 1st September 2023 which means we have moved to a new system in the Primary phase for ordering and paying for school lunches called SchoolGrid.

A welcome email was sent to all existing parents at the start of the summer holidays from SchoolGrid/Dolce with details of how to register. Please check through spam folders or junk mail if you have yet to receive this email. Parents of pupils joining us in September will receive this information in the next couple of days.

Once you are logged in, you can access the booking system from a desktop or mobile device. Here you will find all your contact details and dietary requirements for all children.

Click on **'Order Meals'** on the top (drop down menu on a mobile device) to access the menus for the week. You can use the blue tab in the top right hand corner to move to future weeks and clicking on the child name in the top right hand corner will allow you to select another child.

Click on the **'Food'** tab on the top left bar to access allergen information, current orders and review a meal or compliment the chef!

Click on the **'Account'** tab on the top left to access your account information, add credit to the account to purchase meals or update your contact information.

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be in receipt of Universal Free School meals. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals and have a code that starts with FSM from the local gateway, please take a screenshot of this and forward to reception@cranbrook.education so that we can update our records accordingly.

You will find a handy helpful guide on the home screen with most asked questions and answers about how to operate your account, create and monitor orders. However, if you have not received an email or have difficulties accessing the system, SchoolGrid can be contacted at support@schoolgrid.co.uk or 01506 300310.

In addition to lunches, many pupils choose to bring a snack for their morning play times. We encourage healthy snacks for this including Fresh Fruits, Dried Fruits, Vegetables (e.g. cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, carrot sticks) or healthy breakfast bars with low sugar and no chocolate.

We ask that you do not send any peanut or nut containing products to school with your child that will be eaten on Campus. This includes peanut butter and nutella. If your child has eaten peanuts/nuts before coming to school, please be sure your child's hands and face have been thoroughly washed before entering the school.

<u>Uniform</u>

Our school uniform represents a sense of belonging and **pride** in our community. We kindly ask that all students come dressed in the correct uniform fostering a sense of unity and shared identity. This includes hair tied back if below the shoulders and correct PE Kit for PE days meaning no football kits or similar for these lessons. Please note, only minimal jewellery is allowed. This means a watch and stud earrings. More information can be found about our uniform <u>here</u>.

Physical Education

PE Classes will start from Thursday 7th September. Classes will have PE on the following days with Year 1 to Year 6 wearing their correct PE kit:

Monday: 5 Reynolds, P Ahlberg Tuesday: 1 Docherty, 5 Sufiya, 3 Fletcher, 6 Yousafszai, 6 Walker Wednesday: 2 Engle, 2 Ellis, 4 Love, 4 Montgomery Thursday: R Daywalt, R Bryon, 3/4 Ibtihaj, 1 Donaldson Friday: N Carle, 3 Favilli

Extra-Curricular Activities

We believe in the holistic development of each student, which is why we offer a range of exciting extra-curricular activities. These activities provide opportunities for your child to explore new interests, develop talents, and connect with others outside of their classroom community. Our Extra Curricular Activities programme will run from Week 2 of the school year with sign-up being sent later this week. Stay tuned for details on how your child can get involved!

What to Expect in the First Days of the Year

Please note that school will be open for Reception to Year 6 from Tuesday 5th September, 2023. For families who also have children attending our Secondary School Phases in the campus, please note that Wednesday 6th September will be open for Year 7 and Year 11. On Thursday 7th September, the campus will be open for all pupils from Reception to Year 11.

In Primary, the initial days of the school year are a time for relationship building, adjustment to a new environment and expectations, and discovery of learning and friendships. Our experienced team is committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where each child feels valued, supported and **safe**. This will start with our **kind** team of teachers thresholding at their classroom doors - making sure every child is greeted individually with warmth and a smile. Throughout the first few days, pupils can expect a blend of **engaging** activities and introductions to help your child settle in comfortably - learning about our campus manners, researching their classroom author and getting to know or refamiliarising themselves with the campus.

At Cranbrook Education Campus, we're more than a school; we're a team united by our shared mission of transforming lives and strengthening our communities to make the world a better place. As we embark on this journey together, know that our commitment to **aspirational learning and opportunities** is unwavering. We look forward to a year of #Crantastic moments where each child's progress and success is celebrated.

Wishing you a wonderful end to the summer holidays and all the very best for the start of the new year.

Warm regards,

Krisha Gandhi Head of Primary and Senior Deputy Head of Campus

Reception, Year 1 & Year 2



