



Tuesday 5th January 2021

BHPS Newsletter No.16 2020~2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you're well.

The last 24 hours have been interesting to say the least. I must applaud the reaction of the BHPS staff who have shown dedication to solve the considerable problems and challenges that have been presented to us in such a short timescale. Trust me, a partial school closure makes teaching considerably harder for all of us. Thank you also to parents who have been engaging with surveys in a short space of time to help us to clarify the type of provision that we can make.

The way forward for the next few days is as follows:

Remote learning (that is initiated by school rather than the Oak Academy) will begin tomorrow. It is not possible to summarise how this will work in this letter but it is essential that parents and carers read and understand Level 3 of the Blended Learning Plan that is on the 'Coronavirus Updates' section of the school website www.bramcotehills.org

School will re-open tomorrow for vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers. We will be open for five days a week. Miss Gibson has worked tirelessly to organise the allocation of places for this provision in an incredibly short space of time. We understand that the guidance that will support the organisation of key worker provision is to be published tomorrow afternoon. (No comment!)

The 'drop off' window for key worker children has now been reduced to be between 8:40 and 8:50am for all children and there will be year group bubbles in the F2, 1C, 2D, 3W, 4G, 5C and 6OG classrooms. Children will enter the school site in the same way that they have since September and the arrangements for collection have not changed since last term. The year group teachers will alternate between running the year group key worker bubbles in school and running the remote learning on a weekly basis.

Children should attend school in uniform and, at the moment, continue to wear PE kit to school on the days that they were previously doing PE.

At present, I understand that Breakfast Club will not be operating but the After-School Kids' Club will be running.

As some of you will have seen from the survey, school dinners are being offered to all children in school with the normal arrangements for payment.

Some parents who qualify for a key worker place have been surprised when we have queried whether this is really required when there is another adult in the home. We have done this, not to be difficult, but for us to join together in our endeavour to protect our community as much as we can. We need to keep the number of children and staff on the school site to an absolute minimum in order to minimise the risk of spreading the infection, particularly with the new strain which is evidently much more transmissible.

The next few weeks will, once again, be challenging for all of us and we will need to draw on our reserves once more.

During the first lockdown, the requirement was for children to do what they could at home. There is now a clearer expectation that all children must engage and complete the work that has been set. Taking part in remote learning is not optional and we will be expecting all children working remotely to participate fully. We will be ensuring that the work set at school mirrors the work set at home.

When taking part in Microsoft Teams registration meetings, it is very important that the following etiquette is followed:

- Children can only be admitted to their meeting if they display their name
- Children should wait in the 'lobby' before being admitted to the meeting
- Children should mute themselves and raise a virtual hand if they need to ask/answer a question

- All cameras should be switched on
- Parents need to be supportive of the teacher
- Children should be suitably dressed for the meeting, no pyjamas. Other adults, including staff, will also be suitably dressed
- Children should not be eating during the meeting and should remain seated at a table unless asked to move by the teacher
- Children should not be playing with toys and there should be no other distractions such as the TV being on
- Language used should be appropriate
- The chat function should not be used. If there are questions, there are year group emails which will be operational between 11.30am and 12.30pm. These are:

fs@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk

y1@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk

y2@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk

y3@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk

y4@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk

y5@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk

y6@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk

You will remember that we sent home CGP workbooks in October (yrs 2 to 6) for use in an event such as the one we find ourselves in now. **These now need to be available for children and those key worker children need to bring them to school every day they are in.** Please do not complete any pages until this has been requested by your child's teacher.

As always, it is essential that children are not sent to school if anyone in your household has any of the following symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change in sense of smell or taste

The symptomatic person should obtain a test and all household members should isolate until a negative result is obtained.

I thank you in advance for your on-going support and I am sure that, by working together, we can get through the challenging weeks that lie ahead. We will do our best to solve problems as they arise and will be providing more information on an on-going basis.

I fully understand that we all have different personal circumstances that may bring their own challenges. More than ever, it is a time when we need to support one another.

Take care

Yours faithfully,



Pete Taylor
Head Teacher