



Brighstone C.E Aided Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs R. Lennon

New Road – Brighstone – Isle of Wight – PO30 4BB – Telephone (01983) 740285

www.brighstoneprimary.org.uk

Charity Number: 307389

E-mail: office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. Here is some information about your child's remote learning provision that we have been putting into place:

Google Classroom

For your child's remote education provision during the period of school closures, we will be using the multi-functional online learning platform Google Classroom to set and receive remote learning. This is a useful and popular site that many schools have been using for their remote learning provision. We are very excited about this as all learning will be provided in one place. (Reception and KS1 will also continue to use Tapestry.)

To enable children to access Google Classroom, you have been set up with a school email account in your child's name, and your child's class teacher will contact you directly with this (some of you may have already received this). In this platform, your teachers will set work, provide links to online learning, provide instructions for activities, and provide feedback, and you/your child can also submit their work into Google Classroom (documents, pictures, messages, etc...).

Your child's teacher will be sending you an email through these new addresses which we would like you to reply to so we know that it is all working well. You can continue to use your personal email address for correspondence with the class teacher, but all remote learning correspondence will take place through the new email address or via Google Classroom. You will also receive your daily Zoom invites to the class virtual lessons through this email.

If you choose to allow your child to send their own emails from this account, you are expected to oversee this account to ensure you are happy with their correspondence.

While some of you may already have some experience with using Google Classroom, some of you may feel a bit nervous about using a different platform, but I'm sure that we will all get the hang of it! We have had a crash course in it this week and found it really straightforward to use. I will send you a 'How to access the Google Classroom Guide for Beginners' document to help you, and here is a tutorial for parents:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lowi-gmbys>

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Daily virtual lessons

Daily virtual class meetings will take place through Zoom, as parents, children and staff are familiar with using this. These daily virtual lessons will be to have 'live learning', to set work, to have class discussions, to receive feedback, to provide clear explanations and demonstrations about learning, and to enable teachers to assess children's progress. It is expected that all children will part in these, as we believe that this is important for their emotional wellbeing and education. You will receive your daily invites via the school email account as mentioned above.

Each class has a set time each day, and your teacher will let you know when this will be. I have reattached the risk assessment for virtual lessons (this was also shared with parents last academic year), as well as the ground rules. If you allow your child to participate in these daily lessons and you are present then this will be accepted as your permission.

Expectations and information

The Department for Education has clear regulations in place for remote learning during these school closures. It states that:

'The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school and will include both recorded or live direct teaching time, and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently.'

Schools are expected to set a carefully sequenced set of lessons for each subject, that builds on children's prior knowledge and is responsive to their needs, just like it would be in school. Primary-aged children are expected to participate in this remote education for around 3 hours per day. However, we also understand that many parents will be trying to juggle a range of home learning if they have other children, as well as their own work, and so we are enabling some flexibility as to when the remote learning takes place. The daily virtual lessons with your child's class teacher will be at set times, but you can then decide on the timings for the rest of the learning.

A weekly overview of the subjects and lessons/activities will be published in the Shared Drive of the school website, as before. You will find this on your child's class page. This will be available every Monday morning and will briefly explain the week's learning. More information (including worksheets, instructions and links) for each lesson will be on Google Classroom.

Schools are required to publish information about their remote education provision on their website, which I also attach to this email. This document will provide further information for you about our remote education provision, as well as how to get support from us if you are struggling with access to adequate technology.

Communication

Communication between parents and teachers can continue to take place using your personal email addresses that you have previously provided. However, you may wish to use the new school email address in your child's name instead. Any work being sent by email will be sent to the child's school email address rather than parents' personal emails, so it is advised that you check these every day. Teachers will also endeavour to reply to any emails within one working day as they are all teaching during school hours.

Communication can also take place on Google Classroom (and Tapestry for Reception and KS1).

Golden Worship certificates

Certificates will continue to be given each week, for those children in school or at home. These will be emailed to you or put on Google Classroom.

Collective Worship

We will publish on the school website a Collective Worship PPT each week for you to look at with your child, if you wish. We will also look into the possibility of leading virtual Collective Worship, and we will be in touch about this.

Exercise books and reading books

If you would like an exercise book for your child to record their learning in, you are welcome to collect one from the school foyer. There is also a selection of reading books that you can borrow; please borrow a few at a time to avoid too many unnecessary journeys. Alternatively, there are hundreds of free eBooks on Oxford Owl: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

Once again, we hope that you are all OK. We understand that trying to juggle home learning with work is difficult, but we hope that the use of Google Classroom will make it easier. I'm sure that there will be some teething problems (there usually is with technology!), but let us know if you have any questions or would like some support with it. We will get there! If you have any questions at all about the remote learning or about your child's wellbeing and mental health, then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for all your support and understanding, and hope you all stay safe and well.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone Team