

Happy Days!

We have been a VERY happy school these past two weeks! It's been an understandably emotional time for all our community but our children, as always, have shown such strength, resilience and courage and we are now ready for the next stage in our journey following the lockdowns and disruptions of the pandemic. I have enjoyed chatting with you all again – and cannot thank you enough for embracing all that we are doing at Coombe Road Primary. Everything we do and every decision we make has our children at the very heart, and we are so pleased that this is recognised by you. We really do love and care for all our Coombe Roaders.



Our Educational Journey

Our children have not been in school consistently for many weeks now and so we need to ensure we set them back on their learning path. This will be different for every child, and we will need your support to ensure that children achieve their very best. We are currently mapping out where we are in terms of the curriculum and what has been covered/not covered. As we know our children well, we have already been able to give additional support as needed. Our aim for all children is to consolidate prior learning, to then deepen and enhance knowledge and develop and strengthen learning. It is important for you, as parents and carers, to understand that your children are all at different stages (more so than ever before) and the best thing you can do to support your child is consolidate what they are learning in school. Please, please avoid 'cramming' and going through an area of learning too quickly in order to 'speed up'. This approach could lead to your child feeling deflated & worried – and could eventually lead to putting them off learning completely. There is no 'quick fix'.



We have already planned out the summer term which will be a wealth of 'essential' learning according to the stage your child is currently assessed at (by their teacher, who knows them well). For those of you whose children demonstrate that they have consolidated prior learning, we will then move to 'desirable' learning to strengthen and deepen their knowledge and understanding.

There will be a virtual Parent/Carer Consultation after Easter (date to be confirmed) where you will be able to discuss your child's progress and what you can do to support them at home.

In the meantime, please avoid using phrases such as 'time lost', 'learning lost', 'behind' and continue to encourage your child to do their very best. Please trust that our wonderful teachers will do everything we possibly can to enable your child to continue to experience the very best education.



Drop Off & Pick Up

A reminder that when you are dropping off/picking up children, please follow the guidance below:

- It is very important that everyone is prompt at drop-off and pick-up times and that only one member of the household continues to accompany their child(ren).
- Please wear face coverings (unless exempt).
- Please keep your child(ren) with you at all times and ensure that they are keeping a safe distance from others.
- Please queue, leaving a suitable distance between yourselves and others – do not 'linger' near entry and exit points.
- At drop-off, please say goodbye to children at the gate and do not enter our premises.
- When collecting children – if you drive, please park sensibly and collect by foot (it is not safe for teachers to leave their locations).
- We understand that siblings may be in different bubbles during the school day, so please ensure that you continue to follow PHE guidance when home.

Within the school day, we will continue with regular hand-washing and other enhanced hygiene measures. Children will not mix with other bubbles throughout the day.

Attendance

Both the Government and Local Authority are keen that all children attend school every day. I am sure that you are equally eager to get back to the old routine and we will, as always, support you and your child with attendance.

If your household has to self-isolate due to a positive case of COVID-19, it is vital that you keep the school informed of this as we need to report this on the register differently. We will also need the notifications sent from NHS Track and Trace which can be emailed to attendance@coomberoad.brighton-hove.sch.uk

If you are alerted to a positive case of COVID-19 out of usual school hours (i.e. weekend/school holidays) and need to inform us, you can email covid@coomberoad.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Attendance is important but we also need to keep our community as safe as we can. Please check temperatures daily and before leaving for the school day. If your child has a temperature of 38°C or more, do not come to school – even if they feel well. Do not send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Continuous new cough
- High temperature
- Lack of smell or taste

These are the most significant symptoms, but if your child feels at all unwell they should not come into school.

Asymptomatic Testing (LFD)

These tests have been made available to households who have nursery and primary aged children.

It is recommended that adults (not children) test twice weekly to be sure that the household is Covid-free. I will send a separate letter via Ping from BHCC regarding this. If you wish to order tests, you can do so by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

It is important to note that, if your child has symptoms, a PCR test should be carried out (these can be booked online <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>).

LFD tests are NOT for nursery and primary children and NOT to be used if a person has symptoms.

Bubble Closure (let's hope not!)

Should we have to close a bubble due to illness, remote learning will be set on G Classroom. This will follow the same format as in lockdown with pre-recorded lessons by your child(ren)'s class teacher (unless the classteacher is unwell).

Many thanks for your feedback on the remote learning which was very positive and informative. The vast majority of you prefer the pre-recorded lessons and not being held to a 'schedule' (especially those of you working at home).

Some of you found the live G Meets slightly stressful (and loud!). We will continue with these in the event of a bubble closure but understand if you would prefer a quick phone call instead.

Donations for Red Nose Day

Please give whatever you can spare -

<https://donation.comicrelief.com/cart/1YsYOwm2pHZgBUhWr8ZL13>

Happy Weekend everybody!



eserve