



**Branscombe C of E
Primary School**

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Curriculum Statement During School Closure Due to Covid-19 and on Phased Re-Opening of Schools After Crisis

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire"

The Coronavirus or COVID-19 pandemic has affected educational systems worldwide, leading to the near-total closures of schools, universities and colleges. Efforts to stem the spread of COVID-19 through non-pharmaceutical interventions and preventive measures, such as social-distancing and self-isolation, have prompted the widespread closure of schools and educational establishments. This has meant that we have had to re-assess the way in which we deliver our curriculum both during the period of Lock-down and once children have returned to school.

Our school mission statement for Branscombe C of E Primary School states that:

Our aim at Branscombe C of E Primary School is to create a happy, fun, secure, caring, interactive and stimulating learning environment in which all children will receive an education of the highest quality, within the context of the school's Christian beliefs, enabling all members of the school community to develop their talents and realise their full potential.

Curriculum Intent during school closure

The aim of the **home learning** themes during school closure is to help and encourage pupils to continue to practise their basic literacy and numeracy skills and to have the opportunity to take part in activities that support their personal achievement through cross-curricular, creative activities and specifically by;

- continuing to practise skills in reading (decoding, fluency and comprehension) including the continued use of programs such as 'Bug Club' and 'Spelling Shed' and writing (transcription and composition),
- continuing to develop and practise systematic and synthetic phonics in EYFS and KS1 using Phonics Bug,
- continuing to practise skills in mathematics, using the school resources such as 'Powermaths' workbooks and online resources such as 'White Rose' videos,
- continuing to practise basic skills of counting and times tables, including the continued use of 'Times Tables Rock Stars',

- having a conscious approach to the over reliance on technology during lockdown, our non-IT dependent style helps mitigate against increased screen time and to assist those families who do not have access to laptops or multiple devices,
- continuing to encourage a love of learning for children, as well as parents, through exciting cross-curricular themes,
- continuing to encourage lively, imaginative, creative, enquiring and independent minds, through whole school themes,
- continuing to create global citizens and enriching the cultural capital through a 'virtual tour' of the world, focused on festivals and celebrations that would normally be happening at this time,
- recognising the worth of all individuals and celebrating children's endeavours and achievements through the creation of a 'School Closure Scrapbook' and posts on the school website which display examples of learning at this time,
- supporting the children's social, emotional and healthy lifestyle awareness by signposting them weekly to mental health activities posted on the school website,
- encouraging a flexible approach to learning so that children and their families do not feel that the ideas set are a burden, but can use the time at home to also enjoy family learning activities around the home and garden e.g. baking, gardening, arts, learning new skills,
- understanding and appreciating that all families will be able to support home learning in different ways, with different access to resources and at a differing pace,
- providing differentiated activities for children with SEND and support for children with EHCP's where possible.
- continuing to celebrate our Christian Distinctiveness by sign-posting families to Church of England 'lockdown' activities and providing weekly Acts of Worship that families and children in school can share together.

Curriculum Intent on re-opening of school after crisis

At Branscombe C of E Primary School, we consider supporting our pupils' mental health to be an important part of our provision. Therefore the aim of the curriculum in school, on re-opening after the Pandemic Crisis, is to provide provision, strategies and opportunities to support mental health and well-being and to enable our pupils to close any gaps that may have developed in English and Mathematics, and specifically to;

- support the children's social, emotional and healthy lifestyle strategies to promote positive self-development,
- re-build and invest in strong relationships, enabling good social interaction and rediscovery of friendships,

- reintroduce structure and routines to enable children to remember skills and rebuild their confidence as learners,
- address the gaps in learning through carefully planned activities and assessment,
- focus on the key skills of reading, writing and mathematics,
- continuing to develop and practise systematic and synthetic phonics in EYFS and KS1 using Phonics Bug,
- provide opportunity and exploration, alongside the need to work at pace, to make sure that this group of learners is not disadvantaged,
- engage with the school community, understand its needs and engage with all stakeholders to support the transition back into school life.