



**Branscombe C of E  
Primary School**

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**Curriculum Statement During School Closure Due to Covid-19 and on 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,
- continue to follow the main themes of our Curriculum Rolling Programme across the subjects with the aim of teaching a full curriculum by the start of the summer term 2021,
- 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.

### **Home Learning Provision from September 2020**

We appreciate that once schools are fully open again we will still need to plan for children who may need to learn from home. This may be because they are well enough to be in school but have symptoms of Covid – 19 and are waiting for test results, it may be because a member of their household is waiting for test results and so they are isolating at home as a family, it might be that a teacher is off work due to having symptoms or a member of their family having symptoms, or it may be that a local or national lockdown is in place. Therefore, we have considered a range of teaching and learning methods to use in the different instances.

- Whilst doing their termly planning the teachers have considered ways that the curriculum objectives for each week of school teaching can also be covered at home – these links and resources are included within an additional section of their usual planning grid.
- Each Monday morning a timetabled grid of website links for each class will be placed on the school website. This might also include some additional resources and worksheets. This will mirror, as best we can, the learning that will be happening that week in class.
- If parents are unable to access the internet or don't have a printer then packs of the work will be available to collect from the school office, along with any pencils, paper, glue sticks etc that may be required.

- All teachers have now had Google Classroom training and parents have been given Permission Documents to enable the children to have access to the Google Classroom Platform. If there is a local or national lockdown this will enable lessons and feedback to be shared between teacher and child. It will also enable teachers who are self-isolating at home to continue teaching the class for some of the time. As children and parents become familiar with this tool we will gradually move over to using this platform, rather than the school website, for sharing all tasks. This will mean that pupils can return work to school more easily and teachers are able to provide feedback to pupils each day. In all cases, if pupils don't have easy access to the internet or devices at home then printed packs will be available.
- Parents will have the opportunity to give their views regarding the type of Home Learning that is required through an online and paper survey early in the autumn term. Our plans will then be reviewed accordingly.