

Discovery Multi Academy Trust  
Beechwood Primary Academy,  
Rockfield Avenue, Southway, Plymouth  
PL6 6DX

T: 01752 706361  
E: info@discoverymat.co.uk

Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Alison Nettleship  
Chair of the Board: Mrs Julia Guy



14<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back to the summer term. Ordinarily we would be enjoying time in the sunshine together, planning many varied and exciting activities for your children to enjoy. However, at this time of uncertainty, one thing remains clear; our schools are open to support your children. Either through 'virtual' means, attending at Beechwood, or through contact with our schools, we want to make sure that we can support you in the best way that we can. If there is anything that we can help with please contact the Beechwood office on:

**[beechwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:beechwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk)**  
**01752 706360**

**Our telephone lines at Weston Mill and Oakwood, as well as emails, will be directed to this office until further notice.**

We know that continuing to support your child's education is important time for you and we have sent you information about accessing eSchools for your child. This should now be up-and-running and your child can login at: "Me", then "My Groups". Choose your Year Group Group – e.g. Year 5 Beechwood.

Your child will then be able to see all the resources you might need for different subjects. In Homework, you will find different pages for submission of Homework for each week. Once you submit a Homework page, it will be sent to your teachers and you will not be able to access it again.

Your class teacher will check in with your learning where possible. Aim to spend at least 30 minutes a day each on Reading, Writing and Maths. You can also practise using TTRS (Times Table Rock Stars) and the BBC Bitesize website. It is really important that you continue to support your child's learning and these resources will also help (further information can be found on the Discovery MAT website)

Websites:

SPAG:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar> (and other subjects)

Maths:

Khan Academy

Writing:

Pobble 365 <http://www.pobble365.com/>

Once Upon A Picture <https://www.onceuponapicture.co.uk/>

Reading:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zs44jxs>

Timestables

TTRS website

General:

BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

After working closely with CaterED over the past weeks to supply food to free school meal families, there seems to be some confusion over free school meals and the eligibility criteria for them currently while children are not in school.

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There are 2 schemes of free school meals that run alongside each other in schools.

1. Universal free school meals which all children in Key Stage 1 (KS1) are entitled to in the country.
2. Free school meals which are checked against a specific criterion and therefore your child would remain entitled throughout schooling as long as still eligible.

Currently the free food collection scheme is only for those children based upon the second one (the eligibility criteria).

If your circumstances are, or have changed over the past weeks and you are in receipt of the following support payments, your child will be entitled to receive free school meals:

- Universal Credit – from 1 April 2018 provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods
- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA)
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals.

There is now a quick and easy online form from Plymouth City Council to complete your application.

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolseducationchildcareskillsandemployability/schoolmeals%20>

Once completed Plymouth City Council will email you back with the decision and let the school know about eligibility for collecting food.

Remember, even if your child is in KS1 they can still be entitled to free school meals as long as you are eligible. Also, you will need to apply separately for additional children who are in KS1, even if older siblings already qualify for free school meals.

If there is anything that we can do further to support you, or your child, please let the team at Beechwood know.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison Nettleship".

Mrs Alison Nettleship  
CEO  
Discovery multi Academy Trust