



Bearwood News

Autumn Term

Friday 15th January 2021

*www.bearwood.sandwell.sch.uk
0121 434 4499
headteacher@bearwood.sandwell.sch.uk*

We hope all our families are safe and well.

Staff are in school every day and we are happy to help our families in any way that we can. Please contact us by phone or email if we can do anything whatsoever. You are not alone, we are here to support you. **PLEASE** ask for help if you need it.

Learning at Home

We know that home schooling is not easy. We can only ask that you try your very best, but it is really important that children do engage in their learning. We will keep checking in with you.

We are doing things differently to last time. All children who have their own ipads in school, this is Years 2-6 , have been offered them and most have been collected. This is nearly 300 ipads at home. Please look after them so that you have one when you return.

We are looking into providing ipads to more children and to providing data. We will let you know as soon as this is possible.

Years 6 and 5 are doing live teaching every day. What an opportunity! Please make sure your child logs on each day at 9am. This is a teacher at home—make the most of it!

All other years, teachers are using video and talking much more to try to explain better, but we know there are still lots of challenges. Your child can message the teacher for help at any time during the school day.

YEAR 4

Next week will be asking you to come and swap your current ipad for a brand new one, on which you will be able to access Google Meet, this means that you can have live teaching from Monday 25th January.

If you are using your own device, the following applies:

Tablets: Download 'Google Meet' App from the App Store

Laptops / Desktops: Access meet.google.com via the latest browser version. Google Chrome is recommended

*devices must have camera and microphone functionality

DO NOT DO ANYTHING YET– AWAIT a TEXT with more info. Your teachers will also tell you more in Google Classroom.

Families entitled to Free School Meals

Families entitled to free school meals whose children are not in school will receive vouchers .

Please stay at home and keep our whole community, including our school staff safe. THANK YOU.

COVID HELP

COVID Winter Grant

<https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/wintergrant>

Financial Advice & Help

If you are worried about debt to Sandwell Council, please call 0121 569 5333

Council Tax Reduction, Discretionary Housing Payment, Welfare Rights, Self-isolation payments, Money Advice amongst others

https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200354/coronavirus_advice/4460/get_financial_help

Resilient Residents

Lots of Advice and contacts for a whole range of needs (Benefits Checker, debt advice, budgeting and money management, employment advice and support, well-being, food, help in an emergency)

https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200347/resilient_residents

LEAP: The energy and money saving service

<https://applyforleap.org.uk/>

LEAP is a free service that is helping people keep warm and reduce their energy bills without costing them any money. LEAP can also get FREE white goods and cookers for qualifying families.

Call (FREE) 0800 060 7567 8:45am – 7.00pm Monday to Friday and 9.00am – 12.00pm Saturdays

Foodbanks

<https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/>

Telephone: 01384 671250 Email: admin@blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk

If you don't have access to a voucher please call the above number.

Church Action Network: <https://smethwick.foodbank.org.uk/>

Holy Trinity Church, contact number: 0121 517 0141

OPENING TIMES

Tue 12:00 - 14:00

Fri 12:00 - 14:00

Salma Foodbank, Tel: 07767 164246: <https://www.salma-foodbank.org/>

There is also a food pantry in Smethwick <https://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/smethwickcan/>

For other locations, please use this link to search: <https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/locations/>

Emergency Food Parcel

Midland Langar Seva Society 24hr Emergency Parcel Delivery: 07903 400179

Rethink Emotional Support

<https://www.rethink.org/help-in-your-area/services/advice-and-helplines/the-black-country-emotional-support-helpline/>

Rethink Emotional Support Helpline is a freephone service for those who are in need of support, reassurance and understanding.

The service can be contacted on 0808 802 2208 at the following times:

Monday- Friday 6.00pm – 3.00am

Saturday- Sunday 2.00pm – 3.00am

We are now offering Text/webchat support during our opening hours:

Text 07860 065 168

Webchat www.rethink.org/blackcountryhelpline

Kaleidoscope Plus Group

The Kaleidoscope Plus Group works to promote and support positive health and wellbeing

<https://www.kaleidoscopeplus.org.uk/self-help-tool.php>

Chat to us via telephone, online through our website or directly through Facebook and a member of our team will be with you as soon as possible to talk

Call 0800 059 0123 Monday-Sunday between 5pm & 9pm

Messenger: Monday-Friday: 9am-8pm & Saturday-Sunday: 5pm-8pm

At times we will all be with clients and therefore you will be asked to leave a message. Please ensure you leave the correct telephone contact when leaving a message.

Hopeline

Hopeline is a confidential support and advice service for children and young people under the age of 35 who are experiencing thoughts of suicide

If you are having thoughts of suicide or are concerned for a young person who might be you can contact HOPE-LINEUK for confidential support and practical advice.

Call: 0800 068 4141

Text: 07860039967

Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org

Opening hours: 9am – midnight every day of the year (Weekends and Bank Holidays included)

Childline

When you call us on 0800 1111 you'll get through to a counsellor, they're there to listen and support you with anything you'd like to talk about. You can speak to a counsellor by calling 0800 1111 or via 1-2-1 chat between 7.30am and 3.30am every day.

Bereavement

Unfortunately, some of us may lose someone through coronavirus. There are many organisations who can help.

Cruse Bereavement Care has online resources to support you and your family during this distressing time. This includes how this pandemic may affect bereavement and grief. They offer a free helpline: 0808 808 1677

Black Country NHS Mental Health Support 24/7

Our new mental health support phone line is operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is available to Black Country residents of all ages. Call 0800 008 6516

If you are experiencing increased distress or anxiety during these uncertain times, please don't suffer in silence, pick up the phone and speak to one of our specialist mental health professionals who will be able to support you.

We continue to provide support through our Healthy Minds / Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services which offer psychological therapy services for people experiencing common mental health problems such as low mood, depression, anxiety and stress. You can also access free online CBT via our SilverCloud platform.

<https://www.blackcountryhealthcare.nhs.uk/contact-us/help-crisis>

Black Country Women's Aid

0121 552 6448 (24/7 Helpline)

07384 466181 (Text or WhatsApp 9am – 9pm)