



BEECHEN CLIFF

16th July 2021

## Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that all learning will be provided as remote “live” lessons from Monday until Friday 23rd July. Your son and/or daughter will not be expected to come into School. It is very disappointing to have to come to this decision but it was fast becoming clear that the large numbers now needing to isolate, together with increasing cases in the community, was making it untenable to deliver what we would want for our pupils.

I am very aware of the huge impact of having children required to be isolated over a period which would have included holiday time, adversely impacting the plans of many families.

Whilst not open for children, the school will be staffed over the next week and the pupils will be receiving lessons which align to their normal timetables.

This is not how any of us would have wanted to end the school year but I am sure you will recognise that the decision has been taken to try to provide a consistent approach to learning for all of our pupils and students and to protect the families in our community.

From Monday to Thursday and on Friday morning tutor time and lessons will follow the normal timetable and be run live via Google Meet. For pupils in Year 10 and L6th these lessons will continue to cover content relevant to GCSE and A Level courses. For pupils in Years 7 to 9 the lessons will be more activity based and hopefully provide some opportunities for different tasks, which pupils will enjoy.

On Friday at 11.15am in place of the planned final assembly pre-recorded videos will be made available on Google Classroom and the School Website. I hope all pupils, and many parents too, will wish to watch these as they will draw the academic year to a close.

There are some afternoon/evening activities planned for next week and these will go ahead as planned. This includes the shooting at Potterne on Thursday and the Pirates and Marauders cricket on Wednesday. If parents would rather that their children did not participate then it is fully understood.

Yours faithfully

Headmaster

## Calendar

**Friday 16th–19th July**

CCF Exercise Summer Breeze, Brecon Beacons

**Thursday 22nd–Friday 23rd July**

Gold DofE - Dartmoor

**Friday 23rd July**

End of Term for all pupils and staff. **School will finish at 12.15pm**

**Tuesday 10th August**

A Level Results

**Thursday 12th August**

GCSE Results

**Thursday 2nd–Friday 3rd September**

INSET DAYS

**Monday 6th September**

Start of the Autumn Term for all pupils



## Information on the use of face coverings on dedicated school and college transport

On Monday, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care announced that Step 4 will go ahead on the Monday 19 July. The Prime Minister also said ‘we expect and recommend people wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you come into contact with those you don’t normally meet such as on public transport’. The Department for Education have therefore updated operational guidance for Schools and now recommends that face coverings are worn on dedicated transport to school or college when prevalence is high. This will be kept under review.

## Theme of the Week

The summer holidays are nearly here. Hopefully you will enjoy some good weather, time with friends and family and spend more time doing things you enjoy. It is important to know how to keep yourself safe over the summer, and where to go if you need help or advice when you are not in school.

### Covid rules

Rules about masks, social distancing etc may be lifted soon. However, it is important to look out for the rules in different places to check you are doing the right thing - for example, you may still need to wear a mask on public transport.

Some people feel uncomfortable or anxious about the rules lifting. **How could you be respectful of this?**

It is important to keep washing your hands regularly, cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and isolate if you get symptoms of Covid (and get tested as soon as possible).

### Online safety

- **1 in 4 children** have experienced something upsetting on a social networking site.
- Only a third (**33%**) of young people say they find it easy to check if the images and videos they find online are truthful.
- Enjoy the benefits of social media,, but be aware of the risks too. If you are worried about anything you see online, you can report it to **CEOPS** to get some advice: [Ceop.police.uk](http://Ceop.police.uk)



Go to [childline.org.uk](http://childline.org.uk) to phone/email or use their online chat

### Sun safety

- **90% of young people have been sunburnt before, with over a 1/3 (36%) admitting they have been burnt more than 5 times. Worryingly, almost 1 in 10 13-24 year olds (9%) never wear sunscreen, in order to get a better tan.**
- **Why is this so dangerous?** <https://www.teenagecancertrust.org/support-us/spread-word/shunburn-stay-safe-sun>



### • Top tips:

Cover up with t shirts

Wear sunglasses and hats

Spend some time in the shade

Drink plenty of water

Wear sun cream - **Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15 (UVB protection) and high star rating with at least 4 stars (UVA protection)**



### Road safety

- 1,792 deaths were recorded in road traffic accidents in 2016, up 4 per cent on the previous year and the most since 2011.
- Pedestrian deaths saw the largest year-on-year rise at 10 per cent, followed by car occupants (8 per cent).
- A common cause of accidents is pedestrian distraction - if you are looking at your mobile you may not be looking carefully enough at the road

### Top tips:

- Look AND listen carefully (why both?)
- Wait until lights change at crossings
- More than 100 bike riders are injured every day in needless, preventable crashes. If you are cycling - wear a helmet and reflective clothing. Check your lights work. Don't take risks (e.g. dangerous overtaking) and stay alert.
- In the car, always wear a seatbelt

### Mental health

- 1 in 4 people will suffer from a mental health issue at some point, but 70% of young people who need support do not get it early enough.
- 78% of young people think there is a stigma attached to mental health.
- Talking to someone about how you feel sooner rather than later means you have a higher chance of recovery (90% of those who access help will improve their mental health)



Off the record -  
confidential listening  
and support service Open House Centre



Free, confidential and independent services  
for young people 01225 312481 or text  
07753 891 745 (for Listening service)  
[www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk](http://www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk)

Manvers Street

Bath BA1 1JW

Tel: 01225 312481

Text 07753 891 745

Email [OTRsupport@offtherecord-banes.co.uk](mailto:OTRsupport@offtherecord-banes.co.uk)

- [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com) - Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people
- Family, friends, your GP



## Mental Health and Wellbeing



### Drugs and alcohol

- Risks associated with drinking alcohol underage include alcohol poisoning, accidents, mental health issues, lack of brain development, vulnerability to dangerous situations.
- There were 3,744 drug poisoning deaths involving both legal and illegal drugs in England and Wales registered in 2016. Because you can't be sure what goes into the drugs you buy, some people have died after taking a drug for the first time, or died after taking a drug they have taken many times before and had no side effects
- Look after your friends if you are going out – do you know the recovery position? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GmqXqwSV3bo>



PROJECT 28

Young People's drug and alcohol service  
Tel 01225 463344  
Instagram dhiproject28

- For questions, help and support - Project 28

28 Southgate Street, Bath BA1 1TP (opposite the bus station); 01225 463 344

- Or talk to Frank -



0800 77 66 00 talktofrank.com  
Friendly, confidential drugs advice

Did you know you can text a school nurse to get confidential health advice?

ChatHealth is a text messaging service available [ 9-4.30 Mon -Fri ].

The text number is 07507334357

Or go to [chathealth.nhs.uk](https://www.chathealth.nhs.uk) to start a chat. You can do this anonymously if you feel more comfortable.

Miss P Netto  
PSHE

### 'The Solution Focused Approach and Social Justice'

This week, our young people have shared with the rest of the nation the hopes and dreams of a win for England in the European Championship final. Sadly, in our work with young people this week, so many are understandably deeply upset, incensed and confused by the abhorrent racism we have seen towards our brave young black players. The fact that we lost is not the main topic of conversation. Instead, young people are focusing on social injustice and want change.

Central to the desired outcomes of the 'Black Lives Matter' movement, the LGBTQ+ community and all people from marginalized society is the desire for us all to listen to the lived experiences of others and to validate these, remembering that our lived experience does not match theirs.

With all our young people, this is the basis for our solution focused conversations to bring about hopeful change, so that no young person feels any less valued than another. As parents, it is important that we listen to our children's lived experiences, whatever they may be and to validate these with them; no matter what our own lived experiences may be.

**What have your children's lived experiences been this week upon hearing about the racist abuse of the players or the violence they may have heard about towards our Italian guests to England?**

**What are you proud of in relation to how your family/ children have supported the fight against racism?**

We do encourage you to invite a discussion with them as many are clearly affected by this. Our children's lived experiences are very different from our own and can literally be about anything at all. When we listen to them and validate theirs, we are enabling our children to be the experts of their own lives and this is so important for their personal growth, confidence and mental wellbeing. It is also incredibly helpful to the trust and depth of relationship we are continually building with our children.

**As parents, we invite you to notice what you do well already to listen to your children's life experiences?**

As always, if you are worried about your child in relation to this topic or anything else and you think that they need some support, please do let our pastoral team know in school.

The Wellbeing Team



Dear Parent/Guardian

**Free School Meals during Summer Holidays 2021**

As you may be aware the Bath and North East Somerset Council provided funding to support benefit related free school meals during the Christmas, February Half Term, Easter holidays by issuing vouchers to parents. The Local Authority is looking to provide similar support during the summer holidays.

In previous holiday periods we have been able to support a voucher scheme with a value of £20 per pupil per week by topping up government grants, we are however unable to afford to top up the government grants for the summer holidays and therefore the voucher value will be £15 per pupil per week, in line with most other Local Authorities.

It is also anticipated following guidance received from the government that the funding for this type of voucher will stop after the summer holidays as the country moves out of the pandemic lockdowns and back to the normal processes. This means that it is likely that vouchers issued during this period will be the last unless new schemes are developed on a national basis.

For those parents / guardians who received a voucher at May half term they will automatically be sent an [e-mail](#) that will ask if they wish to receive a voucher for their eligible children by clicking a hyperlink. This will generate a further e-mail which will contain the links to the voucher portal where they can select the supermarket in the same way as happened previously. Parents/ Guardians will not need to re-apply.

**Please do not make an additional application if you received a voucher during the May half Term.**

For the summer holiday period we intend to issue the vouchers in 2 weekly tranches

Parents and Guardians should receive an e-mail approximately Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. If you have not received this e-mail by the 24<sup>th</sup> July, please check in your Spam folder before contacting [the Benefits team on 01225 477777](tel:01225477777).

Further e-mails will be sent approximately 5<sup>th</sup> August and 19<sup>th</sup> August. With the same procedures to access the vouchers.

**The Voucher value will be for £15 per child per week.**

For parents / Guardians who are eligible for free school meals but did not claim a voucher previously, you can make a claim through the council's web portal which will open **approximately 22<sup>nd</sup> July**, at around 4pm. The web link below will request you to submit an e-mail address and some details about yourself and your child /children including your National Insurance number. From this information we will cross check with the entitled to benefit related free school meals register and issue a voucher link back to your e-mail address. This may take a few days to complete.

Web Link <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information-and-advice/help-parents-and-carers>

Once you have the electronic link you will be able to claim a voucher from a range of supermarkets including Tesco, Sainsburys and Morrisons. Please ensure you are happy with your choice of supermarket **before** you click on the relevant store option, as this **cannot be changed** once it has been picked. **It is also very important that upon receiving your voucher for your chosen supermarket that you download and save it to your smartphone or computer, as replacements will not be issued.** The voucher may be used in-store or on-line for some supermarkets and can also be printed off before taking it to the supermarket. The voucher must be redeemed in full in one transaction and change will not be given.

If you do not have electronic means of contacting us, then please phone the Benefits team on 01225 477777. where you will be asked to provide the same data and a voucher will be made available to you via alternative means depending on your circumstances.

Yours sincerely

Bath and North East Somerset Council



## MUMS: LOOKING TO (RE) START YOUR CAREER?

**FREE BATH-BASED 12 WEEK EMPLOYABILITY COURSE WITH WORK PLACEMENT**

Applications open **now**

Programmes starting in September & November 2021

12 weeks part-time @The Hub, Mulberry Park

<https://www.womensworklab.co.uk/apply-now>



**Bath & North East Somerset Council**

- **Are you a mum and currently not working?**
- **Are you in receipt of Universal Credit but want to go back to work and find a career you love?**
- **Has the Covid-19 pandemic got you thinking about next steps but you don't know where to start?**

We are the Women's Work Lab and we support women in the South West into work. Over a 12 week period, our programme combines face-to-face expert training that fits around the school run (12-15 hours per week), with a formal work placement at a well-respected Bath based employer.

Our training builds your confidence through the skills we teach, our hands-on approach to learning and the supportive peer group that our programme creates. We help you explore career options supported by coaching and invaluable peer support from women with the same kinds of experiences and ambitions as you.


We're looking for women who are currently not working and in receipt of benefits. We don't mind why this is, but we want to help you find your own path back. What's important to us is not what you've been doing up until now, but the fact that you are ambitious to make a change and have a willingness to learn.

All training and work placements will take place term time and school hours only.

**Training takes place at The Hub Mulberry Park, Mulberry Way, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5BU (Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am-1pm)**

**Applications for both our September and November 2021 cohorts are currently open**

**APPLY at [www.womensworklab.co.uk](http://www.womensworklab.co.uk).  
For more info call Samantha on 07837 716856 or mail [samantha@womensworklab.co.uk](mailto:samantha@womensworklab.co.uk)**



## LUCRA MORTGAGES

### Expert. Fee Free. Mortgage Advice.

We've teamed up with Beechen Cliff School to offer all those connected to the school, an expert, fee free mortgage service, taking away the hassle when getting a new mortgage. We will also pay £50 Cashback to Beechen Cliff for every person that takes a new mortgage out with Lucra Mortgages. You just need to quote 'Beechen Cliff.'

01225 970 830  
[hello@lucramortgages.co.uk](mailto:hello@lucramortgages.co.uk)  
[www.lucramortgages.co.uk](http://www.lucramortgages.co.uk)

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE