

Re: Learning at Blatch - Week of 22.01.24

Dear Blatch families,

We are now in a position to share with you that we will be able to partially open our school on Monday. The damage that has been caused to our school building is limited to a relatively small area. However the aftermath of a fire is a highly complex situation, which involves sign off for the areas we can use from many different agencies.

We are also still without some power and heating, which means that areas close to the site of the fire will be off-limits for the time being. The parameters of where students and staff will be able to go in school have been agreed with the police and the local authority, and will need to be adhered to by every member of our school community.

Though we want our students to return to as normal a curriculum as possible, we will unfortunately not be able to have all students back on site together for this coming week. Therefore we will need to offer a blended learning approach for students, which will offer a mixture of face-to-face lessons and online remote learning for different year groups.

Our priority is to ensure that students studying exam subjects, and the youngest in our community, have access to face to face learning. As parts of our site remain inaccessible we've had to move classes within the school, meaning we are limited in the number of students we can have on site at any one time.

Our learning offer at the moment for the week of January 22nd, 2024, is listed below, and is reflective of the spaces we have available for use currently. As more of our school is able to be opened, we'll be able to update and increase our onsite provision, and will notify you of any changes as soon as we can.

Year	Face to Face at School	Remote Learning at Home
11	Monday - Wednesday 8:45 - 3:00 Thursday 8:50 - 12:40 Friday 8:50 - 10:40	Thursday afternoon Friday afternoon
10	Tuesday 8:45 - 12:40 Wednesday 9:45 - 3:00 Thursday - Friday 8:50 - 3:00	Monday Tuesday afternoon
9		Monday - Friday
8		Monday - Friday

7	Wednesday 8:45 - 3:00 Thursday 10:50 - 3:00 Friday 8:50 - 3:00	Monday Tuesday
----------	--	-------------------

For students attending school on site, lessons will begin at **9:00 am**. We would like to ask our students to arrive from **8:50 am**. There will be a **special briefing** for students on the **first day** they come back on site in the theatre from **8:45 am**, so that expectations for their learning and behaviour while on site can be communicated clearly.

For students completing remote learning, lessons will be posted for students on their Google Classroom at the start of each day, following their normal timetables. These lessons will be a mixture of instructional video, live Google Meets and independent activities, with teachers available to be contacted via their email during all normal lesson times if students have questions.

We recognise that everyone's home situation is different, and that all students may not be able to follow normal lesson times at home. We would like to encourage students to try and complete as much learning as possible while they're not in school, however we understand that this might not be possible for all our students. Therefore students will not be sanctioned if they're unable to complete learning. Students will be receiving achievement points for all learning activities that they engage with.

We have asked teachers to limit their remote learning to try and reduce screen time for students where possible, and ensure students have breaks at home. For a normal 50 minute lesson, students should expect 30 mins of online learning, and for a normal 100 minute lesson, students should expect 60 mins of online learning. We also would encourage our students to read for pleasure as much as possible during this time.

If your child does not have their chromebook, their school account can be accessed through any device, using their @blatchingtonmill.org.uk log-in details. Our year teams can also continue to be contacted by email at any time, and will be based in Room 13 at school.

For students arriving at school we ask for all students to enter the site via the **Holmes Avenue** entrance or **Neville Avenue** entrance, and then into the building via West Wing reception. The Frant Road entrance to the school will be closed to everyone. Students should also come in **full school uniform**, or PE kits if they are scheduled to have PE that day.

Unfortunately due to the fire damage, **we are unable to provide any canteen or food services for students.** Please can students bring a packed lunch with them while attending school. Families in receipt of free school meals will be issued with supermarket vouchers.

We have really appreciated all the messages of support that have been received during this difficult time, and know that facing adversity as a team often brings a community closer together. We remain, as ever, committed to continuing to provide a high quality learning experience for all our students and look forward to welcoming all our community back to school as soon as we're able to.

Best wishes,

Ms Claydon.