



Blatchington Mill School

Involvement, Achievement & Care

www.blatchingtonmill.org.uk

Dear Blatch families,

As we head towards the end of term we wanted to share an update with you all about where we are in terms of our site.

Our canteen, the RIC (our library) and two other classrooms in this area are now fully functional and our PE team are using the East Gym and Sports Hall for lessons, with students accessing these venues from the outside.

We expect to be able to use the Sports Hall and all other exam venues as normal as our Year 11s start their GCSE exams.

Areas that continue to be out of bounds are our Design and Food rooms and the girls' toilets in the PE area. Our Design rooms have been significantly impacted by smoke and water damage, including soot damage and corrosion of metal surfaces. They require a deep clean and then will be stripped out, redecorated and equipment replaced or reinstalled. Whilst our Food rooms are less damaged they will still need a significant re-fit before they are usable. The affected toilets will need to be completely redone.

The scale of the work required suggests that we are unlikely to have use of our normal Design and Food rooms before January 2025. Therefore, we have been working on sourcing a number of temporary classrooms for both Design and Food to be put in place asap. We expect these to arrive shortly after Easter at which point we hope to be able to reinstate all practical Food and Design lessons. We are working with the insurance company to make this happen as quickly as possible, however the speed of delivery for these is out of our hands.

We appreciate that this continues to be a difficult situation, particularly for our students taking GCSEs in Design and Food, as well as our Design and Food staffing teams and we are very grateful for everyone's ongoing patience and support as we manage these ongoing challenges.



Week of Action - 15th-19th April

Our third annual 'Week of Action' takes place the week after the Easter break. This is a student-led week which is focused on us working as a school community to translate kind words into actions, making a positive difference to our school or wider community. Each form group has chosen an activity, linked to one of four of our community values: responsibility, respect, service and kindness, which will have a positive impact on others. Do talk to your child/ren about what their form group will be doing and how they are getting involved.

Celebrating successes

We continue to regularly share highlights of all the different activities and trips that our students take part in on our X (twitter) feed: @BlatchMill

Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

Please see the attached leaflet and the link below to sign up for the HAF programme, funded by the Department for Education:

- The Easter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme offers FREE activities, plus a meal, throughout the school holidays.
- HAF is for children and young people in Reception to Year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals.
- There's something fun for everyone, including sports, drama, music, coding, playschemes, and more.

Visit <https://eequ.org/brighton-hove-half> to see what's on offer and book.

Upcoming dates

Monday 25th March - BARC (Blatchington Mill Anti-Racist Community) meeting - 5.30-6.30pm.

Wednesday 27th March - Year 10 Parent/Carer Consultation evening - 4-7.30pm (letters have been sent separately to Year 10 families).

Thursday 28th March - 3pm - School closes for the Easter break.

Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 11th April - Year 11 Revision sessions (letters



have been sent separately to Year 11 families).

Monday 15th April - 8.40am - School opens for all students for the Summer term.

Monday 15th April - Friday 19th April - Week of Action.

Best wishes,

Ms Claydon.

**Headteacher
Blatchington Mill School**

