



**Blatchington  
Mill School**  
Involvement, Achievement & Care



# **Blatchington Mill Summer School Student Handbook**

**August 2023**

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As you read the rest of this Welcome Booklet it is worth remembering the **Blatch Community Values** that we often refer to in assembly. These underpin everything we want for our students and what we hope all members of our community will strive to develop in their time at our school. Trying each day to live to these values and be the best version of yourself is what makes Team Blatch special:

We will:

- Seek to **better ourselves** and the school community so that we continue to **improve together** and embrace **positivity** toward **learning**.
- Develop a **determined work ethic, resilience** and **self regulation** in order to **take responsibility** for creating **solutions** and **successful futures** for ourselves.
- Be motivated by **service** and **kindness** to others and contributions to causes beyond ourselves so that our school is defined by **positive relationships** and genuine **inclusivity**.
- Act with **respect** and **emotional intelligence** towards one another.

**Remember - Never give up, be nice to people and always be the best that you can be!**

## Contacts

[summerschool@blatchingtonmill.org.uk](mailto:summerschool@blatchingtonmill.org.uk)

This email will be monitored during the period of Summer School itself.  
Please use this email address to let us know if your child is not able to attend  
If emailing re non-attendance please include your child's

- First name and surname
- Form Group (eg 7JH)

**01273 736244**

Staff will be available to pick up the phone during Summer School hours.

The email address above will give the staff below access to your information, but if it is appropriate to send a direct message to those below, please feel free to do so.

<p><u>Ms Valeria Capranelli</u> - Summer School Coordinator</p> <p><u>Mr James Harris</u> - Summer School Coordinator</p>	<p><a href="mailto:vcapranelli@blatchingtonmill.org.uk">vcapranelli@blatchingtonmill.org.uk</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:jharris@blatchingtonmill.org.uk">jharris@blatchingtonmill.org.uk</a></p>	<p><b>If you have questions or queries linked to the plans and organisation of each day.</b></p>
<p><u>Mr Jason King</u> - Head of Year 7</p>	<p><a href="mailto:jking@blatchingtonmill.org.uk">jking@blatchingtonmill.org.uk</a></p>	<p><b>For anything to do with your child and their social interaction with others.</b></p>
<p><u>Ms Kate Claydon</u> - Headteacher</p>	<p><a href="mailto:kclaydon@blatchingtonmill.org.uk">kclaydon@blatchingtonmill.org.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Any safeguarding matters.</b></p>

## Welcome to Blatch Summer School 2023

Dear families,

Over the previous two years we have been proud to offer our Blatch Summer School. Feedback from students and families has been extremely positive and as a result we are once again thrilled to be able to offer this opportunity to our incoming Year 7 students.

Our aim is to help our students create strong connections, to imprint in them the core values of Blatch through dynamic activities requiring teamwork, kindness, resilience, some bravery and always communication. All of these skills will be crucial to their academic work from September. We aim to give your children the confidence to be an included and significant part of the Blatch Family.

This week of Summer School will help them start to develop new friendships and realise that 'Big School' is not such a potentially scary prospect.

The Blatch Summer School Staff will accompany our students through a journey in discovering our inner strengths, in helping out friends, embracing our differences and overcoming our weaknesses. This will be an opportunity for your child to meet their soon-to-be friends, explore different facilities and rooms at their new school and work with their peers as a group, whilst having fun.

For these reasons, we have developed a wide range of activities: sessions for adventurous children, calmer ones for reflective minds and messy ones for the artistic spirits...

The intent is for students to complete tasks which they may never have tried before as well as learn new skills. The variety of activities that your child will undertake each day will enable them to find the right balance between what they already like and what they probably haven't had the chance to try yet!

So, on behalf of the whole Summer School Team, thank you for giving us this opportunity. We look forward to meeting all of the students very soon!

Ms Valeria Capranelli - Summer School Coordinator  
Mr James Harris - Summer School Coordinator

## Activities and Timetable

**Please arrive at the Frant Road Entrance by 09:50am**

Here is a table showing you how your day will look;

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>10:00 - 11:00</b>	Welcome Session	Activity Session 1	Activity Session 1
<b>11:00 - 11:20</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11.20 - 12.20</b>	Activity Session 1	Activity Session 2	Activity Session 2
<b>12.20 - 13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13:00 - 14:00</b>	Activity Session 2	Activity Session 3	Goodbye Session

We really don't want to ruin the surprise for you..but rest assured that all the activities you will be doing during the Summer School are designed to be enjoyed by everyone!

Across the week, we will make sure that you never do the same activity twice and that you experience a mix of different kinds of activities.

Here below is a sample of different activities that you **could** be doing during just three days of Summer School

<b>Baking</b>	<b>Trampolining</b>	<b>Football</b>	<b>Creative Writing</b>	<b>Treasure Hunt</b>
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## Arriving at and leaving school

The Summer School will start **Monday 21st August** at **10:00** in the **Frant Road Playground** which can be accessed from Frant Road near the OneStop shop. This is where you all lined up for Taster Day on Thursday/Friday 06/07 July. Please make sure you **arrive at 9.50** so all the activities can start promptly. We don't want to miss a minute!

We will assemble on the playground in form groups, as you can see in the table below.

### Frant Road

CB/HH
WB
WB
RG
MM/BG
RW
EK
KS/MZ
BZ
PS
WR
JH

East Wing Reception

Please make sure you can remember your form group initials (BZ, WR, RW etc). There will be staff with signs on the playground and each student simply needs to head over to the signs for their group.

Don't worry: the friend requests that we used for arranging form groups for September have been reflected in Summer School too. And you will also have the chance to meet new friends!

Throughout the week this group will stay together for most of the activities, but on a few activities where equipment is more limited - we will need to split in half. Breaks and lunch will be with several other form groups. So there is lots of time to mix with students you may know from Primary School and people completely new to you.



## What to bring and wear

Much as you might already be very proud of your new Blatch uniform - and rightly so - you don't need it for Summer School!

During the Summer School you will enjoy a load of activities that require you to be super comfortable in moving around and possibly getting a bit dirty. For this reason, there is a strict **NO JEANS POLICY**: you never know when you may be asked to jump on a trampoline or star in a dramatic theatre performance.

If you want, you can bring your **mobile phone** with you, but in the same way as in normal school, we will ask you to switch it off until the end of the day. We don't want to see phones out at all - just like in normal school time. And if anything happens to your phone this cannot be the responsibility of the school.

**A refillable water bottle will be provided** for everyone and there are water refill stations all across the site.

Lunch will be provided (for free) each day in the canteen. However, feel free to bring a **snack** to eat during the (first) break in the morning.

As always, the British weather can be unpredictable - please ensure to check the forecast and bring a hat/sun cream if it looks to be a hot day. Equally, if there is rain forecast - please bring a rain jacket in case.

## Approach to the week and ethic

The Summer School is an occasion for new Year 7s to meet their new friends in a fun and dynamic environment. You won't be asked to learn in the conventional way: you have plenty of time ahead for doing that!

However, this week will be your first full week at Blatch, so it is only fair for us to tell you that we are used to seeing outstanding effort and behaviour.

There will be a few, very important rules to follow, in order to ensure that both you and all your peers can take as much advantage as possible of this wonderful occasion.

So we expect you to have great conduct and keep a positive attitude throughout the week.

For these reasons, we will be looking out for students who display the the following categories:

- **Kindness**: By showing outstanding kindness to others during activities
- **Inclusivity**: By working well as part of a team & making sure all members of the group feel included
- **Resilience**: By showing outstanding determination & resilience during activities
- **Discovery**: By showing initiative to deliver outstanding independent work during activities
- **Family**: By showing commitment to being part of the Blatch Family

At the end of the three days we will reward individual students, as well as a whole form group who have stood out to us through their displays of the categories above.

## How to work in a group

Lots of the activities you take part in will involve you communicating with others - sometimes with people you haven't met before. This might sound scary, but with a common focus and purpose it is a lot easier. It will be important to make sure that you;

- ★ LISTEN to each other

- ★ Make sure EVERYONE is INVOLVED
- ★ Avoid dominating a group
- ★ Be clear on what you are doing and why, checking everyone understands and agrees
- ★ Work as a TEAM
- ★ Take turns

The Activity Leaders will be aware of how well you are doing all of these things - and will be looking out for individuals to nominate, as well as scoring the form group after each activity.

## Break Arrangements

There will be two breaks during the day

**11:00 to 11:20**      **BREAK**

**12:20 to 13:00**      **LUNCH**

At the beginning of these breaks, your Activity Leader will accompany you to your break space, where there will be some other groups too.

Every day your break space will be different, so you will have a good idea of the whole school site by the end of the week!

During your **lunch break**, an Activity Leader will escort you to the canteen where you will have a taste of our exquisite food prepared by our caterer Innovate - *all for free!*

The order that everyone goes into lunch each day will link to which break space they are in. So you might be first into lunch one day, but the next day have a bit of time to play before you are asked to head in to collect your food. Listen out for the whistle and make sure you follow the Lunch Duty staff into the Canteen via the route they show you. The Lunch Duty Staff may be someone who hasn't yet led a session with you - but you will be able to recognise them as they will have a black Blatch baseball cap on.

You will have the opportunity to choose **between two options** (see menu choices below). It would be great if you have had a look at the menu and decided what you want each day - as it will mean you can head through the canteen faster and then have more time to eat your food and to play with your friends!

You choose, each day, either;

### ***Cold Deli Menu***

- 1 Baguette (Meat or Veggie Option)
- 1 piece of Cake of the Day or a Piece of Fruit

Or;

### ***Hot Deli Menu***

- 1 portion of Main Meal of the day (Meat or Veggie Option)
- 1 piece of Cake of the Day or a Piece of Fruit



Students will have water bottles issued by the school on their first day.  
 You will just have to pick up all the items from your menu choice (hot or cold) from our canteen and enjoy your meal! You cannot pick from both Cold and Hot on the same day.

*Please make sure that any food allergies are known by the school.*

*In case there is any food allergy that **wasn't mentioned in the e-PRF**, please send an email to [parentcomms@blatchingtonmill.org.uk](mailto:parentcomms@blatchingtonmill.org.uk) or [summerschool@blatchingtonmill.org.uk](mailto:summerschool@blatchingtonmill.org.uk) if you are reading this in the school holidays. There is no need for you to do anything if all the information has previously been communicated to the school.*

Below is the mouthwatering menu for the week

	<b>Monday 21st</b>	<b>Tuesday 22nd</b>	<b>Wednesday 23rd</b>
<b>Hot Meal (Meat)</b>	Beef ragu Served with penne pasta homemade garlic bread & garden salad	Chicken Korma Served with Pilau rice naan bread & cucumber raita	Southern Fried Chicken burger & oven baked Wedges
<b>Hot Meal (Veg)</b>	Quorn ragu Served with penne pasta homemade garlic bread & garden salad	Spinach & Chickpea curry Served with Pilau rice naan bread & cucumber raita	Mac and Cheese With garden salad
<b>Cold Meal (Meat)</b>	Southern Fried Chicken baguette with salad & sweet chili mayo	Tuna & Cucumber baguette	Ham & cheese baguette
<b>Cold Meal (Veg)</b>	Roast Mediterranean vegetable & hummus Wrap	Cheese salad baguette	Onion Bhaji wrap
<b>Dessert</b>	Blueberry Muffin	Chocolate Brownie	Flapjack

## Poor Weather Plans

Don't worry: Plan B is as awesome as Plan A!

A large number of the activities in our Summer School are designed to be held outdoors - hoping for a sunny and warm August. But in case the weather is not favourable to us, we will be able to make some tweaks to our plans for each day and ensure that we can carry on almost all of the activities indoors too!

If it is absolutely pouring down - you will spend your breaks indoors and will still be escorted to the canteen and back to your room at lunch time.

## Final Checklist

In summary;

1. Arrive by 9:50AM to Frant Road playground each day
2. No need to bring a water bottle or lunch (bring a snack if you want!)
3. Wear clothes to move around in which are ok to get dirty
4. Let us know if you are unable to attend on any day
5. Have fun!