

BRONTË HOUSE SCHOOL

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Dear Parents

Thank you for the feedback received from the recent parental questionnaire regarding Seesaw, our remote learning provision.

We are delighted that such a high proportion of families are engaging with and enjoying learning through the new platform and we continue to work hard to provide opportunities for learning that meet the diverse range of parental wants and needs at the current time.

Our intention was to increase our teaching from 3 lessons per day to 4, from Monday 27th April; however, the feedback through the survey is that the overwhelming majority of parents feel that this is not desirable given the constraints of home learning. That being said, we are mindful that some families continue to request an increased workload as well as access to a selection of extra-curricular activities. With this in mind, we are moving forward with the following proposal:

Every day, an English and maths lesson will continue to be provided by class teachers. The third lesson, we are calling SHARP: Science, Humanities, Art, RE, PSHE. The entire school will follow the same timetable and we will begin tomorrow with Science for all year groups from Years 1-6 before moving on to Humanities on Tuesday and so on. For our youngest children in Reception and Year 1, as learning isn't arranged into discrete subjects, the content of the third lesson will be left to the good judgement of the teaching staff, though learning will contain the above themes.

The fourth timetabled session of each day, we are calling 'Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds' and this will include some daily PE and Games teaching, Music and Performing Arts, Mindfulness and Languages; as well as a selection of Co-curricular activities for children to enjoy. There will be multiple options each day and we will endeavour to make these, as far as possible, independently led to minimise adult support as we are aware through the survey feedback that this would be appreciated.

This section of activities is being kept separate to the children's structured lessons. Some families have reported feeling overwhelmed and compelled to complete every activity and we want to alleviate this pressure for parents. To access 'Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds', the children should click on their name icon in the top left hand corner of the screen and then click the icon below to see the day's selection.

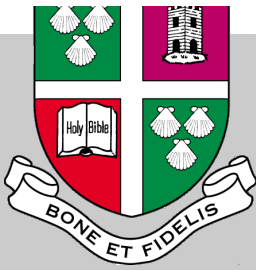


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These activities are an option for those who would like to participate; they are by no means compulsory and they do not require a submission back to staff. It will also be made clear to children that they should complete the maths and English tasks each day before they move on to look at this section of work. Activities within 'Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds' are scheduled to appear at 1pm each day to help children to focus on core subjects as the priority.

In response to requests from parents working from home, we will be making the previous week's activities available on Seesaw until 6pm each Sunday so that anything that children have not had time to complete during the week, if parents would like them to, they can finish at the weekend. We are in no way suggesting that work should be undertaken at weekends; we are trying to allow for flexible working patterns to suit all. With this in mind, we have also now scheduled each day's activities to appear on children's accounts from 7am as some families have requested that material is visible early in the morning.

We will continue to monitor and review our remote learning provision in the coming weeks and there may be additional 'tweaks' as we aim to provide the best possible service to parents throughout this period of school closure.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope all families remain safe and well during these difficult times.

Best wishes

Sarah Chatterton
Head, Brontë House

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