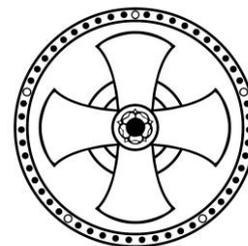




OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



THE GREEN  
ROTTINGDEAN  
BRIGHTON BN2 7HA  
[www.ourladyoflourdesprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.ourladyoflourdesprimaryschool.co.uk)

April 20th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Welfare Check and Update**

I hope that you're all well and coping under these very trying circumstances. Thank you to those of you who responded to the survey of our provision during the lockdown, particularly where you outlined what we could do to help you further. I've met with the Leadership Team this morning and put some things in place which I am hoping will be useful.

One of the factors that was clear in the survey responses was the anxieties around children falling behind and not completing enough work or completing the wrong work in the wrong way. Please do not worry about this. As parents and carers, we are already trying to hold down our current jobs whilst also being teachers of our own children. It's extremely difficult. When the time is right for us to return to school every child in the country, if not the world, will be returning having had their lessons and learning disrupted. There will be gaps in learning and knowledge that needs to be addressed, some of these will be sizeable and schools will require strategies and planning to narrow these gaps. At Our Lady of Lourdes, I am fortunate in having a fantastic team of staff who are extremely capable, passionate and keen to do this. The most important thing for us at the current time is to ensure that our children are coping emotionally with this episode whilst also keeping the core skills 'ticking over'. The techniques which seem to be working best are around having clear routines and allowing for longer 'down times' between tasks – not necessarily trying to recreate school in a home environment.

I appreciate that there's a lot of resources on our website and that this can be daunting. I'd like to suggest that we narrow our key priorities to simply: reading, writing and maths. Some time each day on these three elements, ideally in a routine, would mean that children are prepared to return to school when that time comes. I'd point you towards the White Rose Maths Materials and Talk for Writing resources on our site as things that should be really helpful. In terms of reading, please do look at the reading lists that are there and encourage the children to read for some time each day.

For those that wish to complete more, the wider resources could be used and curriculum maps for each class will also be available on the class pages soon to support some research.

In addition, many of you will be aware that the BBC Bitesize pages have been updated with suggested timetables and resources for each year group which look superb.

Lastly, to support the children further, I have asked teaching staff to make contact. This could take the form of a ping message or phone call at least once a week, just to let the children know that we're thinking of them and missing them all. Thank you again for all that you're doing.

Take care, everyone.

Kind regards,

Paul Barber  
Headteacher

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