



From mountain to sea

Barthol Chapel School

Supporting Pupils and Parents During School Closure (April 2020)



Overview

Since our school closed last month, a significant amount of positive work has been undertaken by staff to help support continuity in children learning. Teachers have shown extraordinary dedication in adapting and making decisions in the best interests of the children and will be vital in ensuring continuity of learning, wherever possible, in the coming weeks and months.

Given the unprecedented circumstances we face, we cannot predict with any certainty when our school will reopen. Learning continues at home and we all have a role to play in supporting learning. We thank you all for the fantastic job you are all doing so far. There is no expectation that the kind of learning approaches and experiences provided in schools will be replicated at home while schools are closed during Term 4.

This booklet outlines how we will ensure that learning continues for children during Term 4.

Learning & Teaching at Home

We are living in extraordinary times and we understand that learning in Term 4 will be different. We also know that this is a new and evolving situation. In addition to supporting wellbeing, a key goal during this period will be to maintain engagement in learning, with approaches that are appropriate to children.

Not all learning, however, will be done online or through digital channels or platforms. We know that there are many other learning resources and activities, including books, television, radio, and creative activities that will help with learning at home.

At Barthol Chapel School, we will utilise Google Classroom through the GLOW Platform to provide daily learning opportunities for learners. GLOW has been developed and configured with safeguarding, child protection, information security and the GDPR as primary considerations.

We do not expect the children to be completing schoolwork for an excessive amount of time each day. Parents and carers are not expected to be teachers, nor to home educate in the formal sense. The needs and the circumstances of families will vary considerably depending on a child's specific needs, household circumstances and their knowledge and confidence. The focus is ensuring that parents and carers feel supported in relation to their child's learning at home.

An example schedule has been widely shared online and is an example of a routine you may wish to consider.



EXAMPLE HOME LEARNING SCHEDULE

Before 9am	Wake up	Eat breakfast, make bed, get washed & dressed
9am-10am	Morning Exercise Fresh Air	Family walk, play in garden etc.
10am – 11am	Learning Time	Activities set on Google Classroom Activities from Paper Based Resource
11am – 12pm	Creative Time	Lego, drawing, baking (some children may wish to continue independently with their learning tasks above).
12pm – 12:30pm	Lunch	
12:30pm – 1pm	Chore Time	Tidy up morning activities, dishes, Hoover, tidy the garden, wash car etc.
1pm – 1:30pm	Quiet Time	Reading, puzzle, nap
1:30pm – 2:30pm	Learning Time	Activities set on Google Classroom Activities from Paper Based Resource
2:30pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Fresh Air	Family Walk, play in garden etc.
3:30pm – 5pm	Values Time	iPad, computer games, board games, play in garden etc.

This is an example and can be adapted and changed to suit individual circumstances.

Parents and Carers can contact the school with any questions by emailing bartholchapel.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

ParentZone website contains relevant information for parents. This includes helping to build the capacity of parents to support their child's learning at home.

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/>



Looking Ahead

These are uniquely difficult times for the whole of our society. Given the extraordinary circumstances we all find ourselves in, we cannot predict with any certainty when Barthol Chapel School will reopen. What we can say, is that decisions as to the duration and combination of coronavirus-related restrictions are subject to regular review.

Transition (Primary 7 Moving to Academy & New Primary 1 Entrants August 2020)

Looking ahead to the next session, schools in the Meldrum Cluster are considering the approaches to transition in relation to curriculum and wellbeing matters. This will include consideration of a wide range of factors - this could be due to illness or bereavement, the impact of social isolation or experiencing poverty for the first time. The importance of relationships at a local level is paramount to successful work in this area.

To support schools, Education Scotland is developing further bespoke Term 4 guidance to assist in planning for the many transitions that take place during Term 4. These materials will be available in early May. I will be in direct contact with Primary 7 pupils and parents and new Primary 1 Parent/Carers with further information in the next few weeks.

Pupil Progress Reporting

Staff have completed the annual Pupil Progress Reports (Report Cards). These will be finalised this week and will be emailed directly to you soon.

And finally...

We would like to direct families to the new psychological resilience hub

<https://covid19.nhsgrampian.org/pages/for-the-public/mental-health-covid-19/how-do-you-self-refer-to-the-psychological-response-hub/>

This is a new service that anyone can self-refer to from 0-100 years for support and advice, and we have a specific self-referral pathway for children and young people. This can be done by the young person themselves if they are 14 years and over or by their parent.

Child and Adult Mental Health Service (CAMHS) has also created a podcast called "Keep CAMHS and Carry On" that has multiple episodes, each with a useful tip or strategy from a member of the CAMHS team.

This can be accessed via CAMHS website <https://www.camhsgrampian.org/podcast> and we would encourage you all to subscribe as there are new episodes coming out all the time.



NHS Grampian Resilience Hub



You might have heard lots of people talking about "Coronavirus" or "COVID-19"

For lots of people, this is making them feel a bit worried and this is normal. For some children and young people, they might need extra help to manage their worries.



The online Grampian Resilience Hub can provide mental health advice and support to children, young people and their parents/guardians



You can fill in a form on the website which will help us match you with a mental health professional that can best support your needs



They will give you or your parent/guardian a phone call within 7 days and may suggest some tools and strategies to help you manage your worries



To find out more visit the NHS Grampian COVID-19 webpage at: [covid19.nhsgrampian.org/?page_id=544](https://www.nhs.uk/covid19/nhsgrampian.org/?page_id=544)

