

Brenzett and Kingsnorth CEPs



Online Learning Guidance for Parents



January 2021



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INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support during this hugely challenging period. We aim, through all of this, to be a constant for our children and we endeavour to support our school communities as much as we can.

We have never before been through anything like this and in the following booklet we aim to outline how we intend to navigate what is an ever evolving situation.

We guarantee that our staff are giving their all, using and delivering learning technologies effectively and providing supportive pastoral provision.

This booklet includes details of the academic provision, guidelines for maintaining a sensible balance and routine to their daily lives during the period of lockdown and some useful links for pupils' wellbeing.

You might also like to look at some of the following websites as a helpful starting point:

www.parentinfo.org

<https://parentzone.org.uk>

<https://parentinfo.org/partner-organisations>

Please also contact the school. We have people accessible each day who can help or direct you to someone who can help.

Our main platform for online learning is Seesaw – this link may help you familiarise yourself with the application - <https://web.seesaw.me/parents>

In terms of what you can do to help your children in the coming weeks with their studies, you don't need to be an expert in any subject to support your child at home but encouragement and awareness of what they are studying is invaluable. As always, reading to and with your child is a great way to engage with their learning.



SUPPORT

There are some small practical ways in which you can involve yourselves and support your children without having to watch over them all day long:

Take an interest in what your child is working on.

Be curious, ask them to teach you about something, ask questions, such as:

- Can you explain that to me?
- Can you give me some evidence for that?
- What do you mean when you say...?

Offer praise and encouragement. Acknowledging the hard work your child puts in is really important and can keep them going.

Children really value this from their parents – even if they don't tell you that!

Make sure your child has a good routine in place for completing work. It might help to have specific times for using technology, going outside, reading, and completing learning. Children are used to the routine of the school day so it's helpful to have this at home as well and ensure that those devices are put to bed well before the children.

Ensure your child has a suitable space where they can work, free from distractions.

Ensure they have breaks, eat and drink healthily, read books, take exercise and enjoy some fresh air.

We endeavour to focus our attention on the following:

- 1) We remain connected as a community at all times**
- 2) Our standards for education continue for all pupils**
- 3) Understanding that parents may continue to work, including those who are our teachers and support staff, and will be required to manage the logistics of supervising children either while at home or elsewhere.**



We strive to support our children and families through these challenges, being flexible, tolerant and living the values of our schools.

COMMUNICATION

How we will communicate with you?

- ✓ SeeSaw online platform – led by class teachers
- ✓ The school website class pages –
www.brenzett.kent.sch.uk/classpages
or www.kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk/classpages
- ✓ Recorded lessons, CBBC and/or Oak Academy
- ✓ School Cloud 1:1 pupil check in sessions
- ✓ 1:1 SEN catch ups with SENCo
- ✓ Recorded Collective Worship
- ✓ Staff stories on YouTube
- ✓ Our usual text messaging service
- ✓ Our usual emails service
- ✓ Regular newsletters
- ✓ Phone calls and chats
- ✓ By letter – snail-mail!
- ✓ On our social media pages



How can you communicate with us?

- ✓ Via SeeSaw – direct to the class teachers
- ✓ Through the year group emails
- ✓ Phone call – school is open each day to leave a message with the office
- ✓ Email to the school office –
office@brenzett.kent.sch.uk or office@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk
- ✓ A member of staff will respond to you during the usual school hours



Get involved!



EXPECTED ONLINE BEHAVIOUR

As always in school, children are expected to behave online as they would in the classroom: **politely** and **sensibly**.

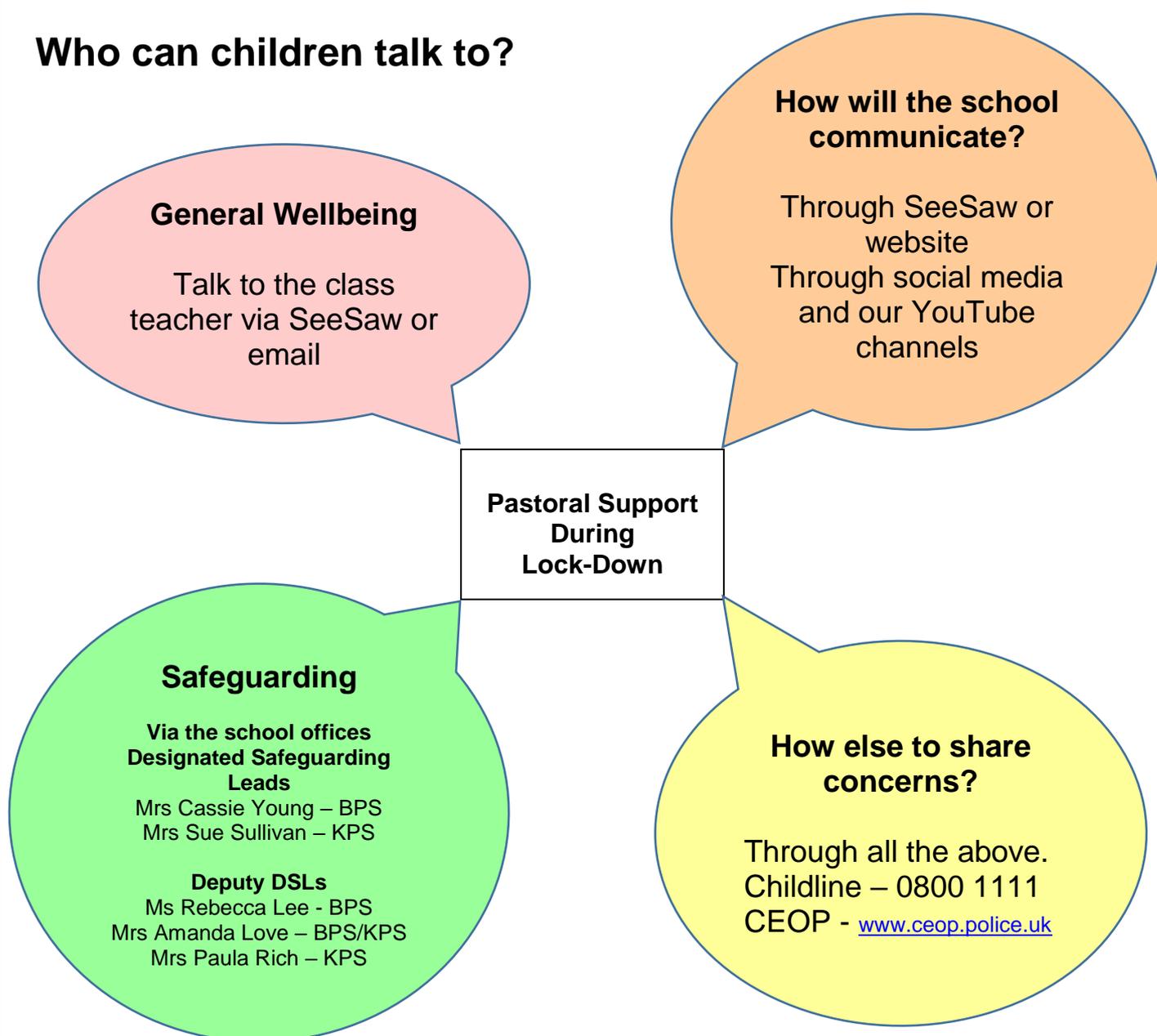
It is vital that all children respect their learning and the work their teachers are setting. Any feedback and communication with the teacher **MUST** be polite and courteous. There must be **NO sharing** of any videos put online by staff. No live 'session' should be recorded or shared without express permission from the staff.

It is also important to act and interact with respect and patience and to use appropriate language at **all** times.

PASTORAL CARE AND SUPPORT

Although we do not have the opportunity to see children in person each day, our pastoral standards and expectations need to remain high. The diagram below gives a number of ways that children will be kept safe and whom to talk to when concerns arise.

Who can children talk to?



PASTORAL CARE AND SUPPORT

Brenzett Class Teachers

Year R	Mrs Greenwood – sgreenwood@brenzett.kent.sch.uk
Year 1/2	Mrs Ross – jross@brenzett.kent.sch.uk
Year 3/4	Mr Sermon – nsermon@brenzett.kent.sch.uk
Year 5/6	Mr Denton – jdenton@brenzett.kent.sch.uk

Kingsnorth Class Teachers

Year R	Miss Gore and Mrs Hayward – yearr@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk
Year 1	Mrs Amos and Mrs Bate – year1@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk
Year 2	Mrs Green and Miss Stonehouse – year2@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk
Year 3	Mr Taylor and Mr Clark – year3@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk
Year 4	Mrs Doinik/Miss Ciantar and Mr Fenna – year4@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk
Year 5	Miss Howling and Mrs Riseley – year5@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk
Year 6	Miss Howard and Mrs Mobbs – year6@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk

Key Stage Leaders

Brenzett Key Stage 1 – Mrs Greenwood
Key Stage 2 – Mr Denton

Kingsnorth Key Stage 1 – Mrs Savage
Key Stage 2 – Miss Howling

School FLOs

Brenzett Mrs Rebecca Lee rlee@brenzett.kent.sch.uk
Kingsnorth Mrs Paula Rich flo@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk

School Offices

Brenzett Mrs Kerry Fuller office@brenzett.kent.sch.uk
Kingsnorth Mrs Kat McNeil office@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk

EXTERNAL SUPPORT AND ADVICE



www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre



<https://nationalonlinesafety.com>



www.childline.org.uk – Call 0800 1111



www.saferinternet.org.uk

WELL-BEING

It is more important than ever to maintain a well-balanced lifestyle even during the period of school closure and lock-down.

Please keep to a regular routine, eat healthily and take exercise - in the fresh air if possible, provided it is safe to do so and remembering the social distancing requirements.

Pupils will not be able to meet up with their friends and will no doubt miss their company; please encourage your children to keep in contact with friends 'virtually'.

Please also encourage your children to be creative and imaginative with their spare time: Read books, take exercise, play music, cook, write a blog, be helpful around the house....



It is important to remember to look after our mental health and wellbeing, now more than ever!

www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health

www.nelft.nhs.uk/services-kent-children-young-peoples-mental-health

www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone

www.kidshealth.org

www.kentyouthhealth.nhs.uk/get-help

www.nhs.uk/oneyou

www.rethink.org

www.healthyyoungmindsinherts.org.uk

<https://parents.au.reachout.com>



ONLINE SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDING

We are doing all we can to ensure our children stay safe whilst using technology, but we ask that you support us in this by being aware of what they are doing whilst online.

We understand that you cannot be expected to sit with them throughout the day due to your own work/commitments, but we advise that you, when possible, take time to discuss their online learning and activities.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's safeguarding, please do not hesitate to contact the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead as below:

Mrs Cassie Young, Brenzett Head of School and Designated Safeguarding Lead
hos@brenzett.kent.sch.uk

Mrs Sue Sullivan, Kingsnorth Head of School and Designated Safeguarding Lead
hos@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk



STAYING ACTIVE

Staying active is more important than ever right now as the official advice is to stay at home and to only go outside for one form of exercise a day.

Now that we as a school have moved to online learning, it is important that you keep yourself physically active each day in order to maintain good physical health and mental wellbeing.

The links below show some wonderful sites from which children can get ideas to exercise and stay healthy:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ - Joe Wicks' body coach channel

www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga - Calming exercise with lots of themed yoga activities

www.sportengland.org

www.youthsporttrust.org

TECHNOLOGY

Technology underpins the online teaching and learning environment and is robust, secure and sustainable for the future. Our teachers have been trained in using these platforms over the past few years along with our pupils, who possess the digital literacy skills to use it confidently and in a competent manner.

All pupils will have access to their classes via Seesaw or the class pages on the school website. All posts within these platforms will be recorded and are stored in the back end of our systems. It is expected that online behaviour and language must mirror the usual high expectations of a classroom.



Our teachers will ensure that they are available during usual school times and provide feedback for pupils via a personalised approach, usually written or annotated feedback.

As and when life begins to return to 'normal' we will be looking to see how we can continue to use online learning to support our children's academic achievements.

If you wish to get in touch regarding the use of technology and online learning practices at school, please contact the Head of School. Contact details are earlier in the booklet.

Should your child have difficulties accessing the online learning platforms or curriculum, then please do contact your class teacher, sharing your concerns. Contact details are earlier in the booklet.



CONTACTING SCHOOL

There will be someone in school each day, supporting the learning of the vulnerable and key worker children.

Contact us:

Brenzett CEP

Tel: 01798 344335

office@brenzett.kent.sch.uk

Kingsnorth CEP

Tel: 01233 622673

office@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk

The most effective and efficient way to contact your child's teacher is either through SeeSaw or using the year group emails shared earlier in this booklet.

And of course, follow our exploits during these challenging times on our usual social media streams – following the normal guidance and expectations!
A huge thank you to our staff that keep these updated and current!

Get involved!



Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our school community for the support shown to us during another lockdown and to the amazing efforts of our school teams, who have really risen to the challenge during these unprecedented times.

