



**APRIL
2020**



Dear Parents and Carers

Since I came into this profession I have tried to start each school year with a fresh vision and a new aspiration. I did not imagine that 2020 would have delivered the current situation, challenging me to hold on to that vision and aspiration. Like many, I am struggling to understand what this means on a day to day basis both personally and professionally but also trying to understand what we will be facing as we move into the final term of the year and start to prepare for September.

We are in a new world which is presenting our children and young people with all kinds of challenges. Not being able to go for a walk, go to the park, see grandparents or even come to school is bewildering. This often creates further difficulties for parents and carers in how best to manage and support their child.

BCC have created a bank of resources to support pupils, parents and professionals, which we have shared on the school website (search for Mental Health and Wellbeing or COVID-19). We have also created an emergency email address for when the school is not open: emergencies@uffculme.bham.sch.uk. The email address is monitored daily and we will do our best to respond to your questions or find someone that can.

Leaders at the school are working closely with BCC to maintain provision for our most vulnerable pupils and children of our key workers. We continue to believe that keeping our children at home is the safest place for them to be.

School will be closed to all students and staff on Monday 20th April to enable leaders to regroup and plan following updates and changes that will inevitably have occurred over the Easter break. We will be calling all parents and carers on this day to gain an update on how your child is.

I would like to put a personal thank-you out to all the staff who have continued to make every effort to come in and support the pupils. I am sure you will agree that Uffculme has a team of extraordinary staff. I am extremely proud of them.

We will only get over this by supporting each other. We will open up as soon as we possibly can. I look forward to seeing you again soon. Stay strong, we will get through this.

Miss Charlotte Stubbs, Head Teacher

PS. My revised vision for this year is of the amazing party we will have when its over!



Pupils in 5/6T have had weekly visits to Red Point climbing Centre. They have had a fantastic time learning new skills.



KS3TS made pancakes and waffles and they were delicious! We practised counting and knowing when to stop, measuring using spoons, cups and measuring jugs and even had a go, with some help, at flipping our pancakes. The best part though was choosing what we wanted to put on and tasting them!

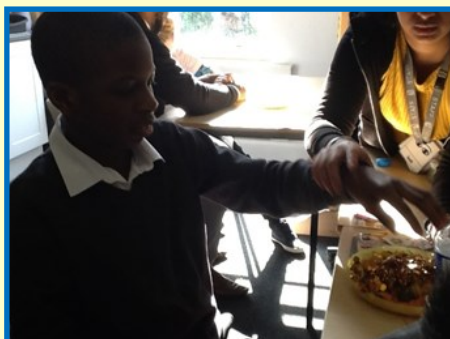


The Secondary Para Sportshall Athletics Finals took place on Thursday 27th February at the Doug Ellis Sports Centre. In terms of activities, students took part in throwing, jumping, sprinting and obstacle events.

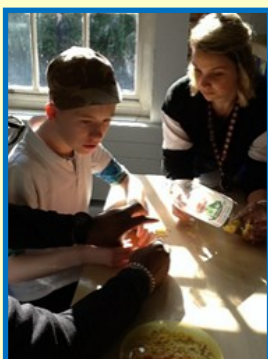
Our year 10 students (KS4KS) represented Uffculme in the finals. After qualifying, they competed against 6 other schools in the final and managed to finish 2nd!!!

We are immensely proud of their efforts and they all got silver medals to take home.

The nominated School Games value for the event was DETERMINATION. Chris, Nimra and Corey all received additional badges for demonstrating this value throughout the day.



As part of our focus on exploring sounds and using our senses, the students in KS3AS loved making their own sensory shaker bottles. We used empty plastic bottles and filled them with a variety of objects, including dried coloured pasta, lentils, tinsel and glitter. All of the students seemed to show a high level of engagement and focus on this task and most showed super hand-eye coordination to fill their bottles successfully with the objects. When our bottles were filled and sealed, we shook them to listen to the sounds they made - we even shook our bottles in time with appropriate pop music.



CCTV Monitoring

Dear Parents/Carers

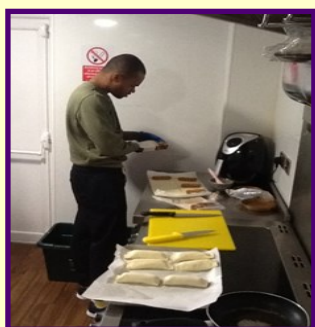
Please be aware that to ensure our pupils' safety whilst on-site, we have installed a CCTV monitoring screen to view the exit door to the Reception area at our Chamberlain site (Secondary). The CCTV will allow office staff to monitor those wishing to leave the building using this route to help ensure pupil safety. Please note that the monitoring will be a live feed and no recording will take place.

KS3KF began a 6 week work experience placement at Summerfield Stables. Students have been learning a variety of skills relating to animal care including mucking out and changing water and hay bales. We have also learned about the transferable skills needed for employment such as listening, showing respect, working hard and the importance of team work. Students have worked extremely hard (spot the clean stables in the pictures below) and made sure that the animals have everything they need to be happy and healthy. This has been a fantastic opportunity and we are very grateful to Dianne and the team at Summerfield Stables for making this possible for us.



Here are some of the animals we have been caring for—we think you will agree they are adorable! Many of them have had a difficult life and have been rescued so they require extra care and attention.

Post 16 have had a great term with many students engaged in or finishing off work experience placements. We have had students gaining experience at Swan court café, Summerfield Stables and Thrive garden centre.



Making sausage rolls for



Helping with deliveries



Making hot drinks for customers



Leading horses



Providing the horses



Cleaning out the stables

SPORTS RELIEF

Lots of students took part on both afternoons of the Kurling competition for Sports Relief last week. Some students had a go for fun and some paid to take part in the competition.

The students raised £20.50 which will be sent off to Sport Relief.

Winners

KS3- Ridwan 19points

Ks4- Salma 17points

Each received £20 gift vouchers for Argos in assembly today.



All About Forces in 1/2 T

We have been learning about forces in 1/2T. We have pushed and pulled lots of different toys, made toy cars and pushed them up and down slopes and dropped lots of different objects into water to see if they float or sink. We have enjoyed the story 'The Enormous Turnip' and pulling each other up and down the PE hall on parachutes and scooter boards. We especially loved pushing the enormous donut across the hall and taking turns to push and roll the barrel. We made wind-up mechanisms for Incy Wincy Spider and had lots of fun doing the actions for the song by winding our spiders up and down and singing to the music.



Home Learning

Our teachers have been busy creating online resources for their classes. We know that learning at home can be challenging, learning is for school after all! However, many of the activities are structured into themed activities and games. Please have a look and let us know how you get on;

homelearning@uffculme.bham.sch.uk

**All Home Learning resources can be found on the school website:
Uffculme.bham.sch.uk**

Look for Curriculum, Home Learning. You will find general resources for English, Maths and Science as well as class specific activities. We have also included links for websites that have been specifically opened up without charge during the COVID-19 crisis.

COMMUNICATION AND AUTISM TEAM (CAT)

COVID-19 & Advice
for Parents / Carers



Currently the nation is experiencing a situation we have not seen before. It is requiring us all to change our normal routines and may be causing your child with autism to feel concerned and present some challenges for you as a parent and/or carer.

The Communication and Autism Team are here to help you during this difficult time. Our families and children are really important to us and we are here to provide you with support through our telephone helpline service.

You can get advice and support on a range of topics, including the following:

- Strategies to support access to home routines
- Motivating and engaging your child
- Tips for helping your child/young person to manage their school work at home
- Social communication and interaction
- Sleeping, eating and personal hygiene
- Wellbeing
- Structure and routine
- Coping with new routines
- Helping your child to understand what is happening
- Looking after yourself

We would like to assure you that our support remains available to you by telephone throughout this period.

If you would like to access this service please email CATParentEnquiries@birmingham.gov.uk with the following information:

- Your name
- The telephone number you would like to be contacted on
- The name of your child's school
- Times and dates you are not available

We will then arrange for a member of the team to call you back as soon as possible.

"We can do this if we all work together as a family"

Birmingham SEND Youth Forum

Visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/localoffer
Follow us on Twitter: @A2Education #coronavirushelp



We're here to help

We're providing a range of information, advice and support for parents/ carers of children with special educational needs or a disability (SEND) during this difficult time:



SEND Parent Link Contact Line - 0121 303 8461

For queries and concerns call 0121 303 8461 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday and you will be signposted to the relevant professional to help with your child's needs.

Communication and Autism Team (CAT)

Advice and support for families and children with communication and autism.
Email CATParentEnquiries@birmingham.gov.uk for more information.

Early Years Inclusion Service

Helping you to support your child's learning, development and emotional needs.
Email SENDenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk for more information.

Educational Psychology Service

Get help with anxieties and emotional support from our Educational Psychologists.
Email epsparenthelpline@birmingham.gov.uk for more information.

Pupil and School Support (PSS) Service

Advice and support for families and children with learning difficulties.
Email SENDenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk for more information.

Sensory Support Service

Providing families and children with sensory support and ideas to help stay motivated.
Email ESSensorySupportLeadership@birmingham.gov.uk for more information.

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BIRMINGHAM EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE HELPLINE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



As a parent or carer at home with your children during the school shut down, do you feel that you need someone to talk to about how you can cope with this challenging time for families?

Birmingham Educational Psychology Service is providing a telephone helpline for parents or carers who feel would benefit from a consultation with a psychologist to support with any concerns.

Areas of concern you may wish to discuss could include:

- Anxiety around the current situation and its impact on your child and family
- Supporting you to support your child's emotional needs
- Concerns about family relationships
- Concerns about friendships, learning, daily structure and activities
- How to best look after yourself so you can support your child

The concerns can be related to school or family life.

You will be offered an initial telephone consultation of 30 minutes with a psychologist and a potential follow-up 30-minute consultation at a later date.

If you would like to access this service please email epsparenthelpline@birmingham.gov.uk with the following information:

- Your name
- The telephone number you would like to be contacted on
- The name of your child's school
- Times and dates you are not available for a consultation
- Whether an interpreter is required for you to access this service

We will aim to get back to you as soon as possible to confirm a time and date for your consultation.

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TEN TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD



1. Talk to them about what they understand

This would be a good time to check the internet on the facts with them as the information is changing daily. There are videos to explain to young children what it is on BBC Newsround.

2. Turn off the news on the TV in front of your child, and limit access to social media

There is lots of speculation in the media and social media which can cause high anxiety. Limit internet access for your child and avoid uncertain conversations in front of them.

3. Teach hygiene

Schools have been teaching all children good hygiene to protect everyone from COVID-19. As parents we can do this at home too. BBC Newsround has produced a video to explain to children about the importance of handwashing.

4. Provide predictability/structure and routines

Children with autism need lots of predictability, structure and routines. Visual timetables (pictures, checklist, symbols), diaries or calendars can help with this. Discuss with your child each morning what is going to happen that day, who they are going to be with, what activities they can do and when.

5. Keep them busy with fun activities

Use this time to do some fun activities at home that you may not normally have the time to do. Teach some life skills, for example cooking, helping with housework, reading, etc. Check with your child's school what websites they would recommend that could help with fun learning activities, homework or other learning options.

6. Teach calming strategies

Many children with autism struggle to self-regulate and relax. Explore different options to help to reduce anxieties, such as yoga, breathing exercises, relaxing music, sensory games, meditation and video clips. Every child is different, and you know your child best. YouTube has lots of ideas for activities, but remember to check them out yourself first before showing your child.

7. Reassure them

It's important to reassure your child that they will be o.k and things will get back to normal.

8. Keep it simple and factual

Avoid using language and terms your child may not understand.

9. Food Limitations

With supermarket shortages you may not be able to buy a good stock of your child's food options. One idea is to have a daily/ weekly menu which you discuss with your child so they are aware of the options that you know you have or can get easily.

10. Call/ video call/ write to relatives

If your child is missing a favourite person or worried about a relative, explore ways to keep in touch to reassure your child they are ok, for example video calls through FaceTime, WhatsApp or Skype or writing them a letter.

You can find more advice from Birmingham City Council about talking to your child [here](#)

Visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/localoffer

Follow us on Twitter: @A2Education #coronavirushelp





Educational Psychology

Educational psychologist telephone helpline for parents and carers

Do you as a parent or carer at home with your children during the school shut down, feel that you need someone to talk to about how you can cope with this challenging time for families?

Birmingham Educational Psychology Service is providing a telephone helpline for any parent or carers of children, who feel they would benefit from a consultation with a psychologist to support them with any concerns arising at this time, for them or their families.

Areas of concern you may wish to discuss could include:

- Anxiety around the current situation and its impact on your children and family.
- Supporting you to support your children's emotional needs.
- Concerns about family relationships.
- Concerns about friendships, learning, daily structure and activities.
- How to best look after yourself so you can support your children.

The concerns can be related to school or family life.

You will be offered an initial telephone consultation of 30 minutes with a psychologist and a potential follow up session of another 30-minute consultation at a later date. These will be Monday-Friday, within standard working hours.

If you would like to access this service please email: Stephanie.Bowen@birmingham.gov.uk with the following information:

- Your name
- The telephone number you would like to be contacted on.
- The name of your child's school.
- Times and dates you are **not** available for a consultation.
- Whether an interpreter is required for you to access this service.

We will aim to get back to you within 2 working days to confirm a time and date for your consultation.

This service will, **as far as possible**, be confidential.



Birmingham
City Council

PARENT/CARER INFORMATION



Parks 4 Play run evening, weekend and holiday play schemes based at Uffculme School.

For information call: 0121 441 4682

Attendance

Attendance continues to be monitored at this time.

Staff at school will be contacting you to inform us on how your child is doing and if there is any additional support you need.

Coffee Morning at Woodlands

Currently on pause.

We will get in touch soon!

A GENTLE REMINDER...

We would be grateful if parents would refrain from parking on the zigzag markings when dropping off/picking up children outside school.

This creates a potential danger for our pupils and we would be grateful for your cooperation in this matter.

Allens Croft Disability Resource Centre

If your child is in the primary section of Uffculme we have a partnership with Allens Croft Disability Resource Centre, who often send a support worker to our coffee mornings.

The centre offers advice and support for families with children aged 0-11 with SEND, running various sessions and events throughout the year.



Information can be found on their Facebook page or they can be contacted on 0121 675 0362

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020

Summer Term 2020

Term Starts: Monday 20th April 2020

SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED TO PUPILS ON THIS DAY

Bank Holiday: Friday 8th May 2020

Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2020

Inset Day: Friday 3rd July 2020

Term Ends: Monday 20th July 2020

Autumn Term 2020

Term Starts: Tuesday 1st September 2020

Half Term: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2020

Term Ends: Friday 17th December 2020

School Contact Details

Uffculme Primary School

EYFS, KS1 & KS2
Queensbridge Road
Moseley, Birmingham
B13 8QB

Phone: 0121 464 9634

Fax: : 0121 464 2207

E-mail:

enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk

Uffculme Secondary School

KS3 & KS4
2 Yew Tree Road
Moseley, Birmingham
B13 8QG

Phone: 0121 464 9634

Fax: : 0121 464 2207

E-mail:

enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk

Uffculme Sixth Form

KS5
40 Russell Road
Moseley, Birmingham

Phone: 0121 464 9634

Fax: : 0121 464 2207

E-mail:

enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk

EXAM RESULTS DAYS

Chamberlain site will be open from 9am-12 noon for students to collect their results on:

13th August 2020

'A' level results day

20th August 2020

GCSE/Entry Level results day