



**WEST HOVE  
INFANT SCHOOL**  
.....  
**A family of friends**



# Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter



Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Families,

We continue to be incredibly proud of our children's learning across all sites. In the last few weeks we have had a number of visitors from other schools looking at aspects of our curriculum and how we deliver learning in the classroom. They are always amazed at the quality of the children's work.

We hope you enjoy seeing some of what the children have been working on later in this newsletter.

## **Positive Relationships**

At Hove Learning Federation we promote positive relationships. We aim to foster a learning community where children and adults all treat each other with respect, listen to each other carefully and make decisions collaboratively. We feel that positive relationships are the root of positive behaviour and attitudes to learning and we all have a part to play in building that positive foundation.

We have recently reviewed our Positive Relationships policy, which you can find on the [Infant](#) and [Junior](#) websites. This includes information about our Learning Compass, the Learning Characteristics, and the strategies we use to support children to understand their own emotions and behaviour.





Please continue to keep in contact with us – should you have any questions or concerns, contact us via the following:

West Hove Infant School

[admin@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

01273 733386

Hove Junior School

[portlandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:portlandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

01273 916609

Hove Junior School Inclusion Team

[inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

01273 916609

Best wishes,

Ben Massey

## Diary Dates

**9th February** - Last day of school

**12th - 16th February** - Half Term

**19th February** - First day back at school

**27th & 29th February** - Parents/Carers

Consultation Evenings

**15th March** - Red Nose Day - dress down day (optional Red theme)

## Our Vision

We provide high-quality education to all pupils. This is realised through strong, shared values, policies and exceptional, inclusive practice.

We are a Family of Friends who LEARN together.





# Year 4 Viking Day

A few weeks ago, in Year 4, we were visited by Portals to the Past and had the opportunity to experience what life was like as a Viking. Throughout the day, we acted out Viking myths, played Viking games, took part in a Viking quiz, and looked closely at some Viking artefacts. Later in the day, we experienced Viking battle tactics and even got to raid some of the nearby classrooms; they certainly didn't see it coming and were even more surprised when we took hostages.

We felt like true Vikings and had a day full of fun, excitement and adventure. Take a look at these pictures of our day...





# Year 4 Viking Day





# Year 5

Year 5 really enjoyed studying forces throughout autumn and enjoyed making parachutes to show the effects of air resistance.

We are excited to be studying our new unit "Properties and Changes of Materials" in spring term!"



# PE Update

Dear Families,

This year London Marathon Events is taking over the Brighton Marathon and events related to that. They have organised amazing activities to get the children and families involved and being active. There will be some activities for our school too!

It's free to enter and a great opportunity for families to take part!

If you are interested, please see the links below and let Miss Anglada know as there are rewards for the finishers and the school!



## Saturday 6 April 2024

The Mini Mile offers children the chance to be part of the Brighton Marathon Weekend by running, jogging or walking a one-mile course in Preston Park

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**FREE to enter**

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Waves start from 11:00am for ages 7 – 17

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All finishers receive a medal and a digital finisher's certificate

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Entries open in **January 2024**

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**New for 2024** – female waves and family waves

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**Find out more:** [brightonmarathonweekend.co.uk](https://brightonmarathonweekend.co.uk)



 LONDON MARATHON EVENTS

**Saturday 20 April 2024, entries open in January**

  **MINI LONDON MARATHON 24**

**FREE TO ENTER!** – limited spaces available

**School entry:** Reception through to Year 12

Up to 100 places per school

Can be organised as a school trip or via parent/carers

Two distances to choose from: one mile or 2.6K

Cross the world-famous Finish Line of the TCS London Marathon

**£10 per finisher** for their school to buy PE/IT equipment

Medal for every child

**14,000 places this year.** Target to be world's largest youth mass participation event

**FIND OUT MORE AND ENTER** [tcslondonmarathon.com/mini](https://tcslondonmarathon.com/mini)





## Football

The girls' team have been playing matches against other schools in Brighton and Hove.

Mr Trott has chaperoned the team in these events and we are super proud of them!

There will be more games to come and more opportunities to shine!

Also, they will be great ambassadors for Girls football event coming in March. More info to come...



## Netball

Last Monday, Tracy Lewis took the girls on the netball team to Hove Park school grounds to participate in a Netball festival with other school.

The festival involved a skills session run by the leaders followed by fun Stinger Netball 5 a-side games. This was a great opportunity for some practice before the tournaments in March.



We are looking for parent/carer to volunteer to coach our girls' football team.

You MUST have a current DBS check and have some qualification/knowledge of the sport.

Ideally these sessions will run weekly.

Time TBC.

If interested, please email the school office or contact Miss Anglada.

Thank you!

# Eco Council – Reduced Plastic Packed Lunches

Thank you for your support with the Eco Council's reduced plastic packed-lunch that took place on Monday 22nd January. The councillors were delighted to see a reduced amount of plastic waste after lunch. Also, they have been counting the number of empty crisps packets each day since launching the initiative and the number of packets went down each day – starting at 72 and going down to 22.

Each week, they will continue to count the number of empty crisps packets and then take them to be recycled.

The next audit of reduced-plastic packed lunches will be Monday 5th February. In the meantime, please continue to support the Eco Council with their goal of making our school more eco-friendly.

Here are of the suggestions made by the Eco Coucillors:

- 1) Use re-useable bottles for water/juice/squash
- 2) Put sandwiches into a reusable container, grease-proof paper or a paper bag
- 3) Buy whole fruit to chop up and put into a reusable container
- 4) Buy a large packet of crisps and put 1 portion per day into a reusable container
- 5) Buy a large pot of yoghurt and put 1 portion per day into a reusable container
- 6) Re-use tinfoil and grease-proof paper
- 7) Use metal/bamboo cutlery
- 8) Make your own reusable containers by using:
  - \*Margarine tubs
  - \*Ice cream tubs
  - \*Take-away containers

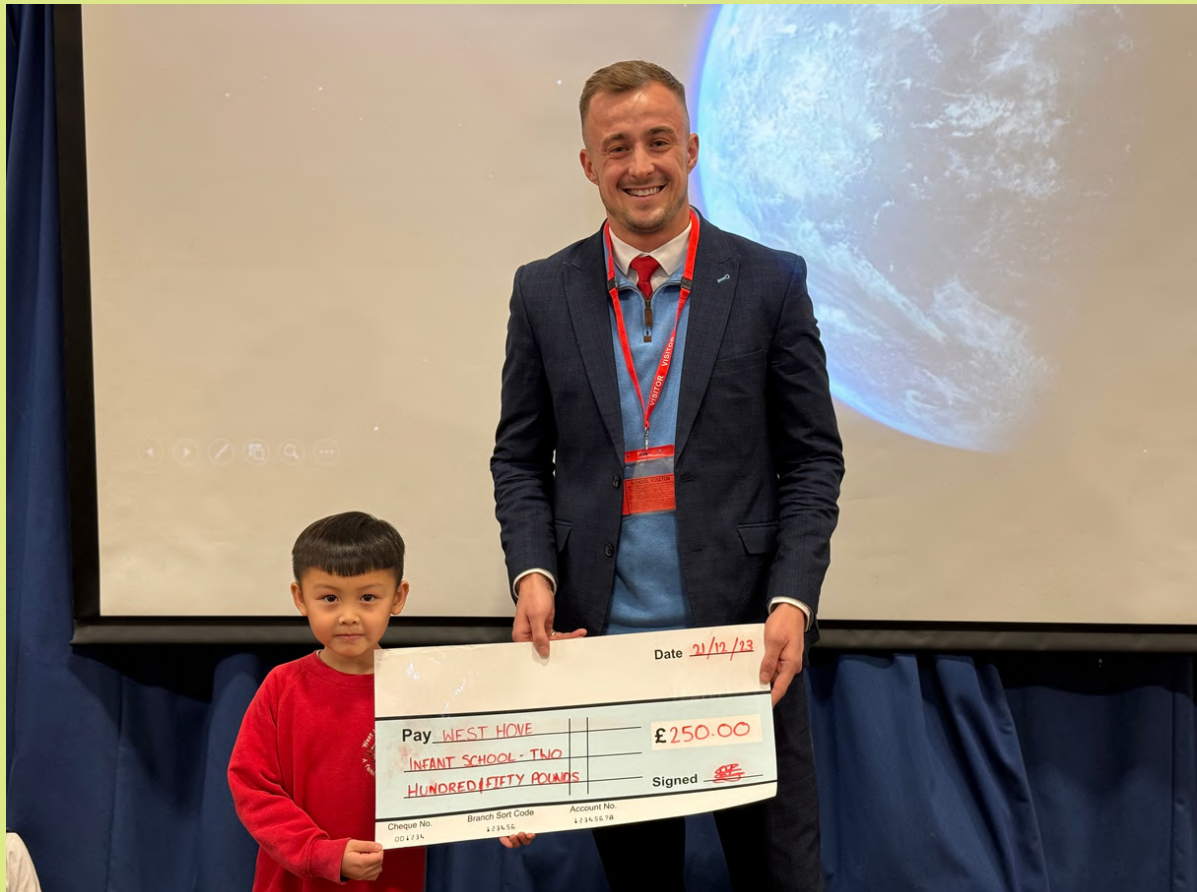
Thanks again,  
Eco Council, Miss James and Mrs Hornsby





# CONGRATULATIONS MILO!

Massive congratulations and thanks to our very own Matisse, Milo, who won a MASSIVE £250 for the school by winning the Robert Luff colouring competition with his utterly fabulous art skills! Mr Massey was particularly excited about the giant cheque!



Robert  
Luff & Co

## Family Philosophy Quest: Mission 6

For this mission we are diving deeper to think about animals who live in the wild and what our responsibility is towards them.

The dodo became extinct in 1681, less than 200 years after being first discovered. This week you will need to imagine what it must be like to be the last one of your kind... How can we look out for other animals in danger of suffering a similar fate?

### [The Lonely Dodo](#)



[The RSPB - Let Nature Sing](#) This video reminds us that many birds are still at risk today.





***The big question: Should we care whether animals become extinct?***

**Caring thinking**

Does finding out about animals show you care for them?

**Co-operative thinking**

Can one person make a difference, or is it better to work together?

**Creative thinking**







How many different ways can you think up to CONNECT birds and humans?

**Critical thinking**

How many reasons can you think of for trying to save animals that are under threat?



Flex your thinking move muscles

 <b>Think AHEAD</b> What does the future hold for the world's animals?	 <b>Think BACK</b> When was the last time you did something for someone else?	 <b>CONNECT</b> Do you see humans as part of nature?
 <b>DIVIDE</b> Should animals and humans be treated differently?	 <b>LISTEN/LOOK</b> Is one sense more important than another to appreciate nature?	 <b>ZOOM (in/out)</b> What is your favourite animal? What is the biggest problem that endangered animals face?







January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to inform you about the BounceTogether survey that we are using throughout our school community.

Hove Learning Federation is committed to creating a comprehensive and supportive learning environment for all children. Therefore we believe it is crucial to understand the wellbeing of our children. While we routinely measure academic outcomes we believe that measuring wellbeing to identify where children may need additional support to enhance their learning experience is also invaluable.

The BounceTogether survey has been developed as an essential tool to measure mental health and wellbeing, we are increasingly aware of the need to place mental health and wellbeing at the core of everything we do and it's the importance of supporting this for everyone within our community. With regards to individual information gathered from the surveys, this is treated confidentially within schools.

Our aim is to directly influence changes within our school, linking them closely to the needs within our setting, BounceTogether will only serve to reinforce the value we place upon mental health and wellbeing as we strive to support all individuals in this area of school life.

If you have any questions about BounceTogether please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Lorna Cummings  
Acting Executive Headteacher



Hove Learning Federation is committed to creating a comprehensive and supportive learning environment for all children. Therefore we believe it is crucial to understand the wellbeing of our children. While we routinely measure academic outcomes we believe that measuring wellbeing to identify where children may need additional support to enhance their learning experience is also invaluable.

The intent of using this platform is to create a really clear and concise understanding of mental health and wellbeing within our setting and the wider community.

This is implemented by running these surveys either at regular intervals throughout the academic year.

The impact of using 'BounceTogether', is that it provides relevant data that informs us about the thoughts, feelings, and views of our school community, thus providing us with the ability to respond accordingly in a range of ways that will support, nurture and encourage all of our pupils.

BounceTogether offers a range of surveys. At Hove Junior School we've chosen to use the Stirling Children's Wellbeing Survey each term. This allows us to identify any children who might currently have a worry, or are struggling with their wellbeing in some way. Children who score low on the survey are supported with a range of in-school / in-class strategies. If a child scores low for two terms, then the class teacher is advised to have an informal chat with the parents/carers to discuss the in-school strategies and possible support around the child. If appropriate, we can consider a School Mental Health Referral in collaboration with parents/carers.

For more information please talk to Naomi Miller, Mental Health Lead.





## Who Do I Contact at Hove Learning Federation?

### Office Staff

The Office Staff will be able to answer most queries about the general day-to-day running of the school i.e. payments, letters, club information and general school enquiries. The office staff will also pass messages on to other staff members.

### Class Teacher

The Class Teacher will be the first person to speak to in the case of a class-based issue or enquiry that the office is unable to answer, such as friendship issues or academic achievement. The majority of issues can be sorted out at this stage.

### Year Leader

For any issue that is more serious in nature or relates specifically to the year group (e.g. curriculum, organisation, year group expectations), please speak to the year group leader.

### Deputy /Head of School

When an issue is such that it demands the attention of a senior member of the Leadership Team please speak to the Deputy or Head of School on your site.

### Executive Headteacher

There may be occasions when an issue is serious enough for it to be brought to the attention of the Executive Headteacher. In this instance, the issue will be referred up by the Deputy or Head of School.


### Chair of Governors

Our policy states that should any person not be satisfied with the Executive Headteacher's response they should address their concerns to the Chair of Governors. They will acknowledge the complaint within 5 working days and arrange for a panel of governors to be formed to hear the complaint.


If your issue relates to Special Educational Needs or Additional Needs, the Inclusion Managers will be the people to contact.

**Inclusion  
Manager**

# FRED THE SHED



Fred the Shed is a school community non profit sharing shed that can help with non perishing items to those who are finding it especially hard in the current climate.



Our aim is to help as many families in our school community as possible and it is run by volunteering parents and carers, the sharing shed completely relies on donations of non perishable items which can be dropped into either school reception areas.



**OPEN** every Friday  
after school

along with Fred's free bakery  
which comes from generous  
volunteers from Olio

Fred the Shed is located in the juniors  
front playground just next to the main gates



If you don't feel comfortable with approaching the sharing shed, please email our  
anonymous email address [fredshedschoolroad@gmail.com](mailto:fredshedschoolroad@gmail.com)

and items can be requested and left in the school reception area.

If you'd like to support Fred the Shed with your time, contact [fowhis@gmail.com](mailto:fowhis@gmail.com)  
To keep Fred stocked, there are collection bins in both school receptions.



# Why is school attendance so important?

Attending school **regularly** helps to build **confidence** and develop vital **life skills**



## School



is the **key** to **future success!**

Missing **2 days** of school each month = Missing nearly **3 weeks** during a school year



## 15 minutes

late every day



**two weeks** of learning lost each school year

Data shows pupils with more than

## 95%

Achieve better **GCSE results!**

**at least one grade higher!**



Even **90%** attendance is still 19 days of education lost in a school year



# ATTEND! AIM HIGH! ACHIEVE!

Please speak to a teacher, or the attendance lead at your school if you have any concerns. Further information can be found at [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/support-at-school](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/support-at-school) or by emailing Brighton & Hove's Attendance Team – [attendanceteam@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:attendanceteam@brighton-hove.gov.uk)



# WANT YOUR CHILD TO CATCH UP IN MATHS?

Limited spots available in my:

RYAN FAERS TUITION  
MATHS TUTORING

## Year 3 Maths Group

- Understand formal written methods
- Fill in any gaps in Key Stage One understanding

## Year 4 Maths Group

- Build fluency with your times tables
- Pass the multiplication check

## Year 5 Maths Group

- Build foundations for Y6
- Reasoning & Problem Solving

## Year 6 Maths Group

- Get ready for Y6 SATs
- Arithmetic & Reasoning

## 11+ Preparation Group

- Pass the 11+ with confidence
- Maths, Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning

Free  
Lesson

Current  
teacher at  
West Hove



📞 **Call Today**  
07848699164

🌐 [www.facebook.com/ryanfaersmathstutor](https://www.facebook.com/ryanfaersmathstutor)

✉️ [ryanfaers@gmail.com](mailto:ryanfaers@gmail.com)

- Online Group Tuition
- Maximum Group Size of 4
- £25 per hour
- Maths Topic Checklist/Syllabus
- Marked Homework Task



Scan the QR  
Code to Learn  
More



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MYLOL

AGE RESTRICTION  
13-19

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MyLOL is a free social networking and dating site aimed at teens. Profiles can publicly display users' images and information, including sexual orientation and personal interests. The service bills itself as "the number one teen dating website in the world", claiming to have more than a million users globally. Despite its popularity, the MyLOL app is no longer available from Google Play or the App Store, although the site is still active. In some countries, police forces and schools have previously warned parents about "sinister predators" and "inappropriate activities" on the site.

## FLIMSY AGE GATES

Although MyLOL states it is exclusively aimed at users aged between 13 and 19, there is no credible age verification system to prevent a younger child – or an older adult – from signing up to the platform. Coupled with the fact that it's impossible to establish a user's true identity on MyLOL, this raises a serious concern that the site could be used for grooming.

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

MyLOL maintains that it monitors all uploaded images for nudity or sexual content. It also claims to be able to detect suspicious keywords. However, there have been numerous reports of explicit content being found on the platform, with users often posting provocative, semi-nude pictures of themselves and engaging in flirty or sexually explicit conversation.

## POTENTIAL CYBER-BULLYING

MyLOL lets users 'vote' on other people based solely on their appearance, much in the same vein as the now-defunct site Hot or Not. This feature could easily lead to distress and bullying, especially if a young person's profile pics receive an unfavourable response. Various reviews of MyLOL have noted that bullying frequently becomes an issue in the platform's chat groups and private messages.

## IN-APP SPENDING

MyLOL is free to join and use, but it also offers paid-for memberships. Users who have paid money get their profile promoted at the top of the site and in search results. They can also earn additional credits for increased engagement with the platform – such as sharing, replying to messages and voting. At the time of writing, the monthly membership fee was \$9.95 (just under £8).

## DATA COLLECTION

According to its privacy policy, MyLOL collects user data including email addresses, contact details and interests. While the company says it is committed to protecting users' privacy, the small print states that information may be shared externally. MyLOL claims to follow procedures to keep data secure, but does not specify what these procedures are, or whether such information is encrypted.

## CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

MyLOL makes it easy to connect with strangers. In fact, the site's rewards feature encourages users to send private messages to people they don't know. There have been several media stories of adults posing as teens on MyLOL to connect with minors, which could lead to extremely dangerous situations, such as a young person meeting up with someone who has been posing under a false identity.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DISCUSS ONLINE DATING

It's vital to talk to your child about the possible dangers of platforms like MyLOL – particularly the threat of online predators. Remind them of the risks of sharing intimate images and information with strangers and emphasise that most people don't realise they're being 'catfished' until it's too late – it really isn't wise for a young person to meet up with someone they've only spoken to online.

### RESTRICT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child has access to a bank card or other payment method, they may be enticed into signing up for MyLOL's premium features. Having their profile boosted and receiving more attention could be especially tempting if their friends also use the site. You could consider altering their device's settings to disable internet purchases, or at the very least keeping an eye on their online spending.

### EXPLAIN PRIVACY RISKS

Before your child begins using a service such as MyLOL, it's important that they understand the potential pitfalls of giving out their personal data on this type of platform. Explain to them, for example, that they shouldn't divulge any personally identifying information to people who they don't know, as scammers can be quite convincing when attempting to steal someone's identity.

### SET UP LOCATION ALERTS

If you're worried that your child may be planning to meet up with someone they've met on MyLOL, you could consider utilising GPS or WiFi location tracking technology to follow their whereabouts in real time. You can even set up a virtual boundary or 'fence' and opt to receive an alert to your phone if your child enters or exits a specified area.

## Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



The National College



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday





Parent Gym is a non-judgmental, fun and practical parenting course, made up of six two-hour sessions, with "missions" to complete between sessions.

The programme has been designed by leading psychologists, drawing on the latest parenting research and has been proven to increase parents' skills and confidence and so improve the behaviour and well-being of their children. We are holding an online course - for parents, carers and families across the country.

## **Description**

### **Week 1 – CHAT**

Developing effective communication skills to ensure that families are talking and listening to each other.

### **Week 2 – LOVE**

Building self-esteem and independence through secure attachments. Establishing boundaries as part of love.

### **Week 3 – BEHAVE**

Setting rules and being fair and consistent when you discipline your child. Getting the balance right, with enough praise and quality time together.

### **Week 4 – CARE**

Looking after ourselves and our families, maintaining good physical and mental health for both parents and children.

### **Week 5 – DISCOVER**

Supporting children to learn, explore, and make the most of their schooling.

### **Week 6 – TOGETHER**

Looking to the future and recapping key techniques. Creating a strong family bond in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Sign up link here:

[https://parentgym.arlo.co/courses/10-parent-gym?  
e=fe0095f396ae4aafa5b050c5c445a0d1](https://parentgym.arlo.co/courses/10-parent-gym?e=fe0095f396ae4aafa5b050c5c445a0d1)





# Autism and online safety

You are invited to a coffee morning with BHISS staff on

**Thursday 1st February 2024 at 9.15am**

**at the Holland Road site**

This meeting is for parents or carers of children

with an autism diagnosis

and also those on the pathway

Mandy Leahy, who is an autism family support worker from the council's inclusion and support service, (BHISS) will be here at the school to answer questions and talk through strategies.

Please ask Louise Molloy or Mandy Stewart  
for further information

# SPRING TERM OFFER 2024

SERVICE (ALL SERVICES ARE FREE OF CHARGE)	WHAT'S AVAILABLE?	HOW TO BOOK/ENQUIRIES
<b>SNAP &amp; BRAVE</b> Individual and small group work support for vulnerable children aged 8 – 13 (Y4 – Y8).	Face to face support in schools is ongoing this term. We work with children to build resilience, emotional literacy and explore feelings, underpinned by a Protective Behaviours approach. We run a waiting list and places are allocated on a first come first serve basis so please send us your referrals.	E-mail: <a href="mailto:safetynet.schools@impact-initiatives.org.uk">safetynet.schools@impact-initiatives.org.uk</a>
Whole class workshops Online safety (Y4 & Y5): Choices and responsibility	Through consultation with children, looking at current trends and the latest information from official outlets, our online safety workshop helps equip children to make informed decisions around internet & screen usage	E-mail: <a href="mailto:ruth.davey@impact-initiatives.org.uk">ruth.davey@impact-initiatives.org.uk</a>
Whole class workshops Preparing for secondary workshops (Y6): These are for schools who have had the first workshop in the series in Term 1.  Term 2: Taking Control	The second workshop of three looks at our personal strengths and how we can manage worries.	No need to do anything: Participating schools will be contacted by Ellie Cobb to arrange a suitable date for the second workshop in the series
Children's Mental Health Week Resource Pack For primary school aged children (Adaptable for many year groups).	Five activities centred around this year's Place2Be's CMHW message; 'My Voice Matters' To use on Interactive whiteboards or print out as workbooks/sheets	No need to do anything: The resource pack will be emailed to all B&H schools by half term.

# Is your child struggling to attend school?

We understand that some young people can find it challenging to attend school, for several reasons.

We would like to offer a space to meet with someone to share your concerns and look at how we can support you around this.

You would be able to meet with an Attendance Officer from the council along with someone from the Schools Mental Health Service, to explore what we can offer, and support the conversations with school.

**We are holding a number of sessions over the academic year:**

## **Day 1**

**Date:** 16th January

**Time:** 10.00 – 3.00

**Venue:** North Portslade Childrens Centre, The Rise, Portslade, BN41 2PY

## **Day 2**

**Date:** 6th February

**Time:** 13.00 -16.00

**Venue:** North Portslade Childrens Centre, The Rise, Portslade, BN41 2PY

## **Day 3**

**Date:** 27th February

**Time:** 10.00 – 3.00

**Venue:** Moulescoomb Family Hub, Hodshrove Lane, BN2 4SE

## **Day 4**

**Date:** 12th March

**Time:** 13.00 -16.00

**Venue:** North Portslade Childrens Centre, The Rise, Portslade, BN41 2PY

## **Day 5**

**Date:** Monday 19th March

**Time:** 10.00 – 3.00

**Venue:** Roundabout Children's Centre, Whitehawk Road, BN2 5FL

## **Day 6**

**Date:** Tuesday 4th June

**Time:** 10.00 – 3.00

**Venue:** Moulescoomb Family Hub, Hodshrove Lane, BN2 4SE

## **Day 7**

**Date:** Monday 10th June

**Time:** 10.00 – 3.00

**Venue:** Roundabout Children's Centre, Whitehawk Road, BN2 5FL

## **Day 8**

**Date:** Tuesday 18th June

**Time:** 13.00 - 16.00

**Venue:** North Portslade Childrens Centre, The Rise, Portslade, BN41 2PY

There will be an Attendance Officer available between these times, along with a Family Support Worker from the Schools Mental Health Service.

This is a drop in offer and there is no need to book an appointment.





# Are you concerned about your child's mental health?



- Anxiety
- Low mood
- Difficulties regulating emotions
- Self esteem and confidence
- Sleep difficulties
- Fears and phobias
- Separation, loss and bereavement



Scan the QR code below to *refer* your concern to Hove Learning Federation's Mental Health Lead. Link also available on our school website.

<https://www.westhoveinfants.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2023/03/Capture-1.png>



Naomi Miller (Mental Health Lead) will contact you within a week of your referral.

New referrals will be discussed at half termly triage meetings and support allocated.

NB: If you have an urgent concern about a child's mental health please call 0300 304 0061 during office hours or 0300 5000 101 outside of office hours.