GHLL – Back to School

**General support**

Top tips to apply as a result of learning from past crisis management – transition back to school (Taken from United Nations resource paper – 5th May 2020):

[https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373401](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark%3A/48223/pf0000373401) - Preparing for the reopening of Schools

* Start preparing for school reopening as soon as possible, to ensure that appropriate strategies are defined and schools are ready to operate as soon as confinement measures are over.
* Ensure effective communication channels, within the school community, between the government and other education authorities and schools. Communication is key to building trust and consensus among stakeholders and partners.
* Prioritise community engagement and awareness-raising in back-to-school strategies to ensure higher return rates. In post-Ebola Sierra Leone, communication around improved school hygiene practices were effective in encouraging parents to send their children back to school upon reopening.
* Adjusting learning priorities. In African countries hit by the Ebola crisis, adjusting learning priorities was a key strategy to ensure curriculum is covered in a shorter academic year.
* Capitalise on the momentum of using ICT to assist learning and keep up with technology after the crisis. However, caution must be exercised, in order to avoid or mitigate social disparities and inequities, resulting due to lack of equipment and/or access to the internet.
* Take into consideration the wider socio-economic impact of the pandemic on families and the community, and its effect on education. For example, school dropout or transfers increase during crises as families lose income, are forced to leave the affected areas or resort to negative coping mechanisms such as child labour; inequalities are exacerbated due to lack of social services, health, nutrition and protection; female vulnerability is exacerbated, gender-based violence (GBV), including sexual and domestic violence rises, together with incidences of early marriage and pregnancy.

**Management of transition before the first day back**

Good practice – top tips:

* 1-1 support/check ins – how do parents feel about the next steps – how could you put their minds at rest? Before the weekend before returning comes around. No surprises on the first day back! Know who will wobble and who need to be greeted.
* Newsletters to include: a typical ‘Back to School’ day structure, what topic s the children will be learning about and how these topics will all lead to safer practices over the next month/2 months – the children need to be the driver of the safer living in school guidelines – not just the teachers enforcing their own pre-created set of rules
* Links to guidance/support – available through school website, with links to GHLL website

Active Gloucestershire are readying a ‘Back to School’ start you daily Daily Mile

**Governors support**

Governors – Gloucestershire Schools net – supporting the team through transition back into school

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolsnet/governors/>

Covid-19 guidance – Gov.uk documents

NAHT – FAQ page that can be accessed by governors

<https://www.naht.org.uk/news-and-opinion/news/leadership-news/frequently-asked-questions-about-coronavirus/>

NGA – National Governance Association

Information, guidance specific to returning back to school

<https://www.nga.org.uk/News/NGA-News/May-2020/The-governing-board%E2%80%99s-role-in-the-safe-opening-of.aspx>

**Setting up and monitoring of a Post Covid action plan:**

Hold a (Back to School) governors meeting to discuss a post-Covid/MH Action Plan created by the HT – have clear structures for safeguarding (Hygiene) in place that all staff know and how this will be shared with the children from day 1. Have a way of monitoring its effectiveness and clear processes in place for HT to be able to discuss issues and make changes on a daily basis.

**Staff returning - Know what they are thinking!** Quickly gauge what the staff will be worried about on entry back to school – make this clear across all staff – and for them to know it is ok to feel worried and that as a result of this, we will come up with a plan to help manage these items – HT to set up

**Education Support (Name of group) – Free resource 24/7**

<https://www.educationsupport.org.uk/individuals/telephone-support?gclid=CjwKCAjwte71BRBCEiwAU_V9hwIfLkOrd5CVb9NrKNcVpxSp3j-OljFYYgt2GM9MerNDexl1_LsjVBoCdLwQAvD_BwE>

<https://youtu.be/BhmmCG1ehXg> - how they can help

<https://www.educationsupport.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/helpline_poster.pdf> - POSTER for staff room

**For the children – during those first couple of weeks back**

<https://www.cosmickids.com/> - free online yoga and mindfulness activities

<https://www.headspace.com/meditation/kids> - meditation for kids

A lot of the ways we have used activities to create more physical activity in our homes, can be easily transferred to the classroom!

<https://www.youthsporttrust.org/free-home-learning-resources-0> - resources for all key stages linked to boosting Physical Activity

Following link available through Association for Physical Education website AfPE

**#ThisIsPE – Supporting Parents to Teach PE at Home – can also be used in the classroom by teachers during thr first couple of weeks back - FREE**

**Yorkshire Sport Foundation** and leading national organisations, including afPE, have been working with physical educators from across the country to **support parents to teach PE at home**.

Short two-minute videos are being posted that show parents (and teachers) free, fun and easy to follow PE activities for the whole family to enjoy together.

Each **#ThisIsPE** video will focus on a different aspect of the National Curriculum. The videos, delivered by PE teachers, will help children and young people to continue their skill development in PE during this period when we are having to stay at home, to save lives.

Videos will be posted at **1pm** on a **Monday**, **Wednesday** and **Friday**.  You don’t need to be in PE kit and you don’t need sports equipment. All of the videos will use things that you can find around the home. View the videos [HERE](https://www.afpe.org.uk/thisispe-supporting-parents-to-teach-pe-at-home/).

Resources for teaching using The Book of Hopes – Literacy Trust

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/news/katherine-rundell-launches-the-book-of-hopes-a-free-childrens-book-by-over-110-authors-and-illustrators/>

<https://theday.co.uk/>

Daily online newspaper for children to discuss topic across the world – including covid-19

Can look back at past days/weeks to be able to articulate their journeys