

Supporting keyworker children

Georgia Hamilton, primary school teacher

Looking after keyworker children and providing enriching learning experiences has been a priority for Georgia, a primary school teacher at Wimborne Junior School.

What has changed?

Since the government announced changes to schools and how they operate, Wimborne Junior School continues to support keyworker children during a period of rapid change. While the majority of students are now at home, those who remain have had to adapt to new ways of learning at a pace.

At Wimborne Junior School, keyworker children have participated in a range of long topics that promote discussion and improve wellbeing. From creating a space camp to dressing up as superheroes, each experience is enriching as the last. Other experiences including cooking classes as well as PE lessons that keep all students active.

What we did

- Themed long topics that included space camp, super heroes and plastic pollution
- Basic cooking lessons that promote the importance of nutrition and healthy eating
- Daily 'wake and shake' activity to promote good mental health and to keep active
- Weekly art and music lessons to encourage a creative outlet
- Occasional yoga classes to promote mindfulness and wellbeing.
- Participating in the Hampshire School Games challenges that are set weekly and the children compete in individual tasks that can be done in school and at home.
- Weekly gardening for some children, which we have found to be very calming and therapeutic.

The impact

- Keyworker children who have been attending school at this time have been incredibly responsive and remain positive
- Staff morale has remained high throughout due to team work and our leadership team who have supported us every step of the way.
- Activities involving playground artwork has really lifted community spirit during this time.

Why do I teach in Portsmouth?

I had moved around a fair bit before settling in Portsmouth to teach.

Portsmouth was an exciting place to live and teach as it is a highly populated area and has a mixture of people from different backgrounds and cultures (and has the added bonus of a seafront - which is fantastic for wellbeing).

"I chose Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance as I was teaching 80% of the timetable. You can take other courses and simply learn the theory. With my course, I felt ready and well equipped for my NQT year."

About the teacher training provider

The Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance is committed to raising standards and improving the outcomes for the young people of Portsmouth in primary and secondary school. With excellent outcomes for graduates and rated outstanding for teaching, Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance is well placed to attract and train the best people to work in Portsmouth.

Want to find out more?

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