



#BBatHOME

Guidance to Parents/Carers

We're excited to launch **#BBatHOME**, a new programme to enable The Boys' Brigade to continue to reach out and engage children and young people with a fun and exciting programme of activities with opportunities to learn, grow and discover in their own homes supported by parents/carers.

Why and How?

With the outbreak of the Coronavirus in the UK, our face-to-face meetings with children and young people have had to be suspended. In response to this The Boys' Brigade is seeking to engage its members and non-members in a programme which will continue to see children and young people having the opportunity to Get Active, Get Adventurous, Get Creative, Get into the Bible, Get involved in their community and the world around them and Get Learning.

We recognise that this will be a difficult period of time for children and young people, with them being restricted in their activities, not attending school or having opportunities to take part in other clubs and after school activities. We hope that **#BBatHOME** will help provide a varied and balanced programme of activities for children and young people to have a go at during the challenging weeks ahead.

We will be providing a weekly activity pack including 6 activities for each of our 3 age groups, each week during the period that the outbreak means that BB groups cannot meet face-to-face.

We work with both boys and girls, with our girls' work running through the Girls' Association.

Our Age Groups are as follows:

- **Anchors** – for 4 to 8 years
- **Juniors** – for 8 to 11 years
- **Company & Seniors** – for 11+ years

Whether already a member of a BB group or not, everyone is welcome to try out the activities and resources we are offering through the **#BBatHOME** programme.

Who We Are

The Boys' Brigade works with over 40,000 children and young people across more than 1,200 groups in the UK & Republic of Ireland.

Our Vision is that children and young people experience "life to the full" (John 10:10).

Our Mission

The Boys' Brigade has faith in young people and provides them with opportunities to learn, grow and discover in a safe, fun and caring environment which is rooted in the Christian faith.

Find out more at
boys-brigade.org.uk

Getting into the Activities

The activities have been designed for children and young people so they can be empowered to choose which activities they would like to have a go at – all that we ask is that you support your child/young person in taking part in the activities. Sometimes you may even be asked to join in a game or activity!

The weekly activity packs provide colourful illustrations, easy to follow instructions and important notes for parents/carers. We would like to highlight that the notes for parents/carers are important and should be considered before commencing any activity. We recommend that you or another adult supervise ALL activities. The resources are provided by The Boys' Brigade as ideas to help support parents/carers. We cannot take any responsibility for how the activities are carried out.

In writing these activities we have been conscious of the current situation, ensuring activities require minimal equipment/resources and where possible items which we would hope you might already have in the home.

As we've already mentioned we would really encourage you to support your child/young person taking part in the activities, but also encourage other family members (brothers, sisters, etc) to get involved as well. We hope as many as possible will want to join in the fun!

Don't forget there will be a new set of activities each week, so watch out for these!

Sharing Activity

There is encouragement alongside most activities for you as the parent/carer to share what your child/young person has been up to with their BB group directly or directly on social media using the hashtag #BBatHOME.

Your local group will let you know how you can share activities with them. If you are not connected with a BB group already we encourage you to share using the above hashtag.

Please consider, when taking photos/video of your child/young person please be aware of your surroundings, how they are dressed and who / what else can be seen before uploading content.

We hope you will also share this programme with other parents/carers so that as many children and young people as possible can get involved.

Keeping Children & Young People Safe

All communication by BB leaders will be through you as the parent/carer, we will not contact children and young people directly. Except for young people aged 15+ where prior arrangements have been put in place with parents/carers.

We would also like to highlight, that children and young people are likely to be accessing the internet and browsing more frequently whilst the schools are closed. If you are concerned and want a greater awareness of how children can stay safe online, check out advice for parents/carers on the NSPCC website at: [nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/).

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact safeguarding@boys-brigade.org.uk or call 01442 509 534.

Any Questions & Feedback

If you have any questions you can get in touch with our Staff Team by emailing bbathome@boys-brigade.org.uk. We would also really value your feedback, so please get in touch to let us know how you get on using the programme.