

JULY 2020

[* Updated 1 August 2020]

COVID - 19 SUPPORT

GETTING BACK

Check here for further updates:

<https://boys-brigade.org.uk/coronavirus-update>

01

From March

Activity packs for use by parents at home will be produced until 26 July 2020.



#BBATHOME

02

From July

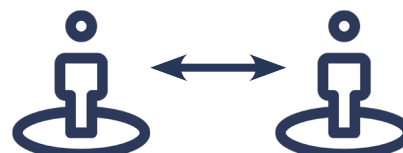
Virtual Sessions and BB at Home activities. Resources available to help Leaders run Virtual Sessions on Zoom.



03

**from 1st Sept - will be confirmed by Brigade UK update*

Stage 3 can be BB at your meeting place with social distancing and other measures in place as per the Stronger, Safer, Together Framework



04

Stage 4 will be BB in a more normal way - perhaps with no or less social distancing.



NIHQ has some laptops that we can supply to Companies or Battalions to help them connect and engage with their members during this period of restrictions on normal BB meetings.

Please complete the expression of interest form here: <https://bit.ly/technihq>

If we are over subscribed selection criteria will apply.

DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY...

Please check out the various links below to find out more information on the particular area listed.

▶ BB AT HOME

<https://bit.ly/bbathome>

▶ IDEAS FOR ZOOM ACTIVITIES

<https://bit.ly/virtualprogramme>

▶ SAFEGUARDING AND GOOD PRACTICE FOR ZOOM MEETINGS

<https://bit.ly/stayingconnected2020>

▶ QUEEN'S BADGE

<https://bit.ly/ContinuingQB>

▶ PRESIDENT'S BADGE

<https://bit.ly/ContinuingPB>

▶ REGISTERING LEADERS

it is important you keep this all up to date. Registration and ID Check evidence can be scanned and e mailed to support@boys-brigade.org.uk or you can use this link to upload on the Brigade website:

<https://bit.ly/registeringleaders>

▶ DofE - THE AWARD AT HOME

<https://www.dukeofed.org/covid19>

▶ PAYMENT TO NIHQ:

<https://bit.ly/PayBBNI>



Conversations around getting back to BB...

JOIN US ON ZOOM



Tuesday 11 August 2020

→ Join our Zoom meeting with NIHQ staff David Penney and Alison Irvine who will be available to chat to you about getting back to BB and how that will look for you in your Company.

→ Not sure about Virtual BB meetings? We will have Captains available to share their experiences on what they have done over the recent months to stay connected to their members using Zoom.

→ Meet Joe Harrison! Joe is the man behind much of the BB at Home resource and he will be joining us to chat through how you can maximise this resource whilst waiting to get back to face to face BB meetings.

Register for this session here:

<https://bit.ly/gettingbacktobb>

Staying Connected...



You will know there is no one size fits all when working with children and young people. They are all blessed with different likes, dislikes, varied gifts and interests. Be prepared that online won't work for all children and young people. There may be barriers due to lack of access to equipment or low data

allowances. They may be ok technically but just not feel inclined to join in on Zoom. Getting a card/note hand delivered or in the post is actually a bit of a novelty in this digital age. This could help to let your children and young people know you care about them, whilst letting them know what is going on in BB and in your church and when they could maybe expect to get back.

GETTING BACK TO BB AT YOUR CHURCH

Working Together



CHECK WITH YOUR CHURCH

The main denominations in NI have issued guidance for congregations restarting worship services and organisations including risk assessments and check lists. Some have separate information for re-starting youth work.



Captain: Can you meet with your Chaplain, talk and pray it through together?



Captain: Bearing in mind your Church's approach to reopening, can you chat with your Leaders and get their ideas on how BB could re-start at the given time?



CHECK BRIGADE GUIDANCE

All BB activities have been formally suspended until 31 Aug 2020. As Government restrictions are relaxed this will be reviewed and a date(s) will be announced when BB activities under certain conditions can resume according to the staged approach on the cover page. Please keep checking both the Brigade and NID Facebook pages, and look out in your inbox for updates in our respective e news publications.



PLAN WITH YOUR LEADERS

What we know for definite is that BB will not be the same as last September. It is important that whilst following your church procedures you plan with your leaders to ensure all involved can engage with BB safely in the autumn.

- Maybe you will be returning on a phased basis?
- Maybe some sections could meet outside for a while?
- Maybe it will be all virtual meetings on Zoom or a blended approach with some Zoom sessions and some reduced numbers in the hall. [see stage 3 on front cover]



Brigade Resources to Help You Return Safely to BB

Please look out for these coming soon and use in conjunction with guidance issued by your Church.

24 - 28 AUGUST 2020

**WEEK OF
PRAYER**



Advancing Christ's Kingdom

Please join us during 24 - 28 August 2020 for a week of prayer for BB as an organisation, for you, your BB Company, Battalion and Church as we look how to do BB in the next session and beyond. We want to saturate BB from top to bottom in prayer - asking for God's guidance and grace for the times ahead.

Each evening from 8pm - 8.30pm you can join us live online via Zoom to pray for Boys' Brigade. You will receive details closer to the Week of Prayer which will include links for the Zoom Prayer Times. By registering you do not have to attend every session; it means we know who to send the joining links to. More details will follow including prayer points for each day of the week.

Please encourage us by registering and noting on our Facebook Event to say you are taking part! Please share the event too!

Please register here: <https://bit.ly/wkofprayer>

Here to help...

If you have any concerns about getting back to BB or any other matter please contact our NIHQ staff who will be delighted to help you. You can e mail nidsupport@boys-brigade.org.uk or telephone the new staff mobile numbers below ★



ALISON IRVINE
Support &
Communications

★ 07496 671 813



DAVID PENNEY
Training &
Programme

★ 07496 671 821

▶ Alison Irvine supports Companies, Battalions and individual Leaders in areas such as **Leader registration**, recruitment and development for Companies and Battalions, and **EA Funding**. She also manages all communications for the NID including our **social media channels**, the weekly e news, **design and branding** and all other NID publications including **promotional and resource material**.

▶ David Penney can support your **Training & Programme** needs. He manages the design and delivery of all training courses, the Queen's Badge programme, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and the Anchors, Juniors & Company Section programme work. He also works with the Christian Education & Church Relations committee including planning and developing the Mission 2021 initiative.

NIHQ STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

T: 028 9268 8444 *(note whilst staff are working from home calls will be diverted to their homes)*
e: nihq@boys-brigade.org.uk

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Support & Communications (PT): alison.irvine@boys-brigade.org.uk

Centre Manager & Finance Officer: richard.nelson@boys-brigade.org.uk

General Admin and DofE Queries (PT): wendy.campbell@boys-brigade.org.uk (9am-12 noon every day)

General Admin and Competition/Course Inquiries (PT): deborah.pierce@boys-brigade.org.uk (2pm - 5pm)

General Admin and PA to Director (PT): denise.johnston@boys-brigade.org.uk (9am - 2pm Tues - Fri)



NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT AGM

14/09/2020, at 7.45pm

Please note this will be a virtual meeting.

Please join in - especially if you have never attended an AGM before. It's a golden opportunity to check out what an AGM is like from the comfort of your own home. Full details on the agenda and how to join in will be on our Facebook events page and on the e news.

Advancing Christ's Kingdom

Produced by The Boys' Brigade Northern Ireland District,
Newport, 117 Culcavy Road, Hillsborough, BT26 6HH