



Our ref
MS/LH

Date
22 April 2020

Updates linked to School Closures

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you and your families are all well and that you had a peaceful Easter. I am writing to you with some further important information regarding the education of your children during the Coronavirus crisis.

Supporting the NHS and Key Workers

The school has been supporting the community in a number of ways during this time on top of providing school for the families of key workers. The DT department has been creating PPE for the QMC and the Science department has provided PPE for a local medical practice. Please see the new school website for more information on this and other stories.

Food Bank

We were truly overwhelmed by your generosity in donating to the school food bank before Easter. It meant we were able to provide 30 families with food, toiletries and other essential items. There is still a need for many families so we are running another collection. If you are able to spare some non-perishable food, toiletries or cleaning products, please bring them into school and leave it at the visitor gate on the Beechdale Road site. We will be open for drop-offs between 8.30 and 10am on Friday 24 April, Monday 27 April through to Wednesday 29 April. If you feel you would benefit from this or are struggling at this time and would like some help please contact Mr Wadsley via email on: s.wadsley@trinity.nottingham.sch.uk

Home schooling and online resources

Our staff continue to work to provide the very best resources to support home learning. In addition to this, the Government has produced some guidance aimed at helping parents and carers who are home schooling children with special educational needs and disabilities, which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-with-send-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Devices for disadvantaged learners

On Sunday, the Government announced that it will be ordering devices (such as Laptops) to support disadvantaged learners during this period of school closures. The following groups of children will be eligible for this support:

- children with a social worker
- care leavers
- disadvantaged pupils in Year 10 ('disadvantaged' has not yet been defined by the Government)

These will be ordered by us - parents and carers are not able to order them. The Government has told us that schools will be able to order these for pupils later this week. We will provide more information when we can.



Internet safety

In this time of social isolation, it is important for young people to keep in contact with their friends using social media. However, it is also important to recognise that safe use of the internet and social media is vitally important to protect children and young adults. Below is a list of Government recommended websites to help you ensure your children stay safe on-line:

- [Thinkuknow](#) (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- [Internet matters](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Parent info](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [LGfL](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Net-aware](#) (support for parents and carers from the NSPCC)
- [Let's Talk About It](#) (support for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) (tips, advice, guides)

Please contact the school if you have any concerns about internet safety.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your great understanding, patience and support during this challenging time. We pray every day for everyone in our community, that you and your families will all stay safe and well and that anyone who is ill makes a speedy recovery.

Yours faithfully

James McGeachie
CEO, Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT

Matt Shenton
Headteacher