



20th April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Coronavirus update 20th April

Firstly, I hope that you managed to spend time celebrating Easter albeit in a different way. I sincerely hope that both you and your families are continuing to stay safe and well in these unique and extremely trying times. Yesterday, April 19th, the Government confirmed that school closures will continue until it is considered safe for both staff and children to return. Therefore, the school continues to be closed, except for vulnerable children and those children of key workers.

As I mentioned in my Easter letter, it therefore remains extremely important that your child continues to keep to as normal a structure to their day as possible; following a balanced diet, getting up at a reasonable time, getting exercise in line with Government guidelines, but at the same time getting a good night's sleep.

It is also important that the children continue to access the resources and activities placed by St James' staff on Show My Homework. If your child is struggling with any of the work set, please do contact their teachers directly via email. All email addresses can be found on the staff page of our website (<http://www.stjameschadle.co.uk/staff/>).

In addition, the Government has now also announced that as of Monday 20th April, there will be a suite of online resources provided which can be used alongside work set by St James' staff. Further announcements will no doubt follow, but an excellent example can be found at BBC Bitesize (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>). This contains lessons and resources for all Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 subjects. The Government have also said that disadvantaged children across England are set to receive laptops and tablets as part of a push to make remote education accessible for pupils staying at home during the coronavirus outbreak. When we receive any further details, we will be in touch with those families who qualify.

In the meantime, our children continue to have a very important role in reducing the spread of the infection so that the health service can manage in these extraordinary times. It is very important that young people do not physically mix with others outside of their household, difficult though this can be. It is also clear that we all need to continue to look after our mental health and wellbeing, and there is some excellent advice to be found at every mind matters (www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/)

We have cancelled a number of trips including those going skiing and to Iceland. The Madrid trip has been postponed. We are in the process of claiming back monies via the insurance companies and will then be refunding parents and/or carers. Unfortunately, we cannot make a decision on the trip to the Western Front or to France until further guidance is released from the Travel Office. Germany 2021 is still going ahead. As soon as any further information is released, we will be in touch.

I would ask that you follow our St James' twitter account @StJamesCheadle and continue to monitor our website specifically for coronavirus updates (<http://www.stjameschadle.co.uk/coronavirus/>) both of these are updated frequently

Yours faithfully,

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher