

17 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

The government announced yesterday that the countrywide lockdown would be extended for at least another three weeks. This means that home schooling will continue for at least that period.

With Monday 20 April 2020 marking the end of the Easter holiday period, home learning resources will be uploaded ready for children to work through on Monday morning. A number of organisations have responded to the online learning challenge including the BBC who will be launching additional educational programmes. Starting on 20 April, videos, quizzes, podcasts and articles will appear on BBC Bitesize Daily via the BBC iPlayer, red button, BBC Four and BBC Sounds.

I continue to be grateful for your support in helping your children engage with the learning materials that staff have diligently prepared. As I stated previously, most pupils are working through this in an efficient manner however, we are all individuals and not all children have made the transition to home learning equally well. It is important that we continue to manage our expectations when this is the case. The development of a weekday routine will help. Start early if you can and take a rounded approach to each day. Don't worry too much if your child does not work through all the tasks uploaded to the website. All children work at their own pace and for some doing little and often works whilst others are happy to get the work done in one go so that they have a clear day. Try to include some physical education (Joe Wicks continues to excel) whether that be in the home or by going outside for some fresh air. It is just as important to build in some time for mental health and well-being.

I would also like to signpost Kooth, a new free, safe and anonymous service to support young people's emotional and mental health in Birmingham. We know young people have been worried about exams being cancelled and the impact of Covid-19 on their loved ones. The new service launched is available for young people aged 11 to 25 for online self-referral at www.kooth.com.

A reminder to continue being diligent by maintaining strict hygiene, handwashing and social distancing.

Stay safe. Stay well.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Singh Headteacher