

Headteacher

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Dear Parents

Now that we have moved into these unprecedented days when your daughter is at home we would ask you to be patient if there are delays in communication or in setting work. There are many reasons why there may be inconsistencies, ranging from broadband availability at home to self-isolation or illness.

Working at home

Please be realistic about expectations for your daughter when working at home. Whilst we are a school that has always set high standards in terms of academic achievement your daughter's overall well-being is far more important. Some students may like the structure of set work to order their day while some may need the reassurance and benefit of doing other things with parents or siblings. You will know your daughter best. Please assist your daughter in making a daily plan that involves completing a manageable amount of work and builds in time for rest breaks and some exercise if possible. You may like to join in with the 'PE with Joe' Youtube broadcast at 9am every morning linked here

<https://www.thebodycoach.com/blog/pe-with-joe-1254.html>

Please also find attached the parental support advice from Croydon to help with overall well-being.

Your daughter's work will be made available via Google classroom and your daughter should register for each subject. Codes can be obtained from the Key Stage Coordinators if your daughter has not written them in her planner. We understand that this is a new experience for everyone. Staff are working hard to upload new learning content and support materials whilst working from home. There may be some inconsistencies at the start but be assured these will gradually be smoothed out. It may be helpful in finding reading material to know that Audible are doing free books for all children whilst schools are shut.

<https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

No bank details or registration are required. Just click on the book and then click on 'start listening'. It works via the App too.

Schools are closed to help protect the NHS and Save Lives – Social Distancing Matters

The whole purpose of closing schools is to ensure social distancing. This will help the NHS to have the staff, the beds and the ventilators available for people in need. Yesterday's deaths included an 18 year old student. It is easy to assume that we will know if we have an underlying health condition that will make us vulnerable but that is not always the case. Please ensure that your daughter fully understands the principles of social distancing and keeps herself, your family and the wider community safe. Students must not arrange to meet up. We have been advised by the police that officers are patrolling areas where young people tend to gather and the message is 'Stay Safe - Stay Home'.

We know that students will miss each other and will feel the need to keep in contact. As a generation of 'digital natives', this will be very natural for them to do electronically. Please check that all communication is kind and appropriate. You may need to monitor this much more closely than usual.

My prayers are with you all,

Mrs S Collins

Headteacher



