

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Following the latest announcement from the Prime Minister, I write to inform you about the updated plans we have put in place to ensure that we can continue to open at this critical time.

Communication

Headline communication will appear on the school website but we are making arrangements to ensure that you and your children can interact with school in the event that you need to self-isolate. To this end we are providing details of your child's email address below and email contact details for members of the staff team will be included in the education pack you receive. The school switchboard will remain open but I would urge you to send requests to info@nightingaleca.org if possible to help us manage the volume of calls.

Education

For children in the Primary School and KS3 (year 7 to year 9) we will be posting home a range of printed learning resources that have been prepared by your child's class teacher to keep them engaged in learning whilst at home. It's really important to keep that sense of normality during these times and doing a little bit of familiar school work will really help to make children feel safe. With this in mind we have also enclosed an "Ideas for Daily Routine" plan that you may find useful when structuring your day at home. There is a mixture of Maths and English work and we suggest that children do up to an hour a day in the morning when their brains are fresh and ready to learn!

We have also generated login details for the Active Learning website on which class teachers have assigned lots of fun and engaging educational games and activities to keep the children's minds busy. The activities are personalised for each child and can be accessed by visiting <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk> and logging on using the username and password provided.

For children in years 10 & 11 we will be posting home a range of printed learning resources this evening that have been prepared by our English & maths leads. It is extremely important that the boys continue to engage with learning at this time and we advise that they try to do at least an hour of English and maths every day. There will be work sent by email from other specialist subject teams in the next week or so and this will be posted or emailed with instructions as necessary.

English: All year 10 and 11 learners should complete the activities booklets for the poems 'The Manhunt', 'Valentine' and 'The Soldier'. They should also complete the sorting activity for 'An Inspector calls' and the mini exam questions for 'A Christmas Carol'.

Maths: Learners can access the following websites for GCSE maths revision and Ms Monika will be in touch via email to check on progress and provide guidance that will help the boys address areas where they need to develop.

Maths Genie: <https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html>

Corbett Maths: <https://corbettmaths.com/contents/>

Social Care

If your family is supported by social care you should know that the majority of staff at the local authority are working remotely in line with national expectation. At a school level we will use technology to make sure that meetings and reviews can take place as planned. This means that we may seek your input over the telephone or by video link if you have access to, for example, an iPhone with Facetime or WhatsApp video messaging. We will make routine welfare calls to all families where children are out of school as part of our safeguarding duty of care. Please do not be offended by contact of this nature, it will only happen if we have not heard from you for a significant period and is being done in order to offer support where necessary.

Hardship

Many families will experience hardship as a result of the crisis and I want the school to be able to provide support where we can. The government has reported already the intention to provide emergency support to citizens in response to these unprecedented circumstances but this will take time to set up. In the mean time we have limited scope at school to help out and where we can we will. Please do not suffer in silence. I can be reached directly and confidentially using the email address below.

Should we have to close the school:

You will be informed as soon as possible via email and the school text messaging service. There will also be information about the closure of the school on the school website. We may have to close the school at short notice during the school day, in which case we will contact you by telephone. **This will only happen in a situation where we cannot safely remain open.**

During closure:

1. Pupils and staff will remain **off site** for the duration of the closure. In the event of a partial closure those who are expected to attend will be informed by telephone.
2. Parents and Sixth Form students will be sent email contact details for all staff.
3. Work will be set by teachers for students to complete at home in 'two-week' batches. This work will be posted home where necessary and copies will be stored on our website for those who are able to print work at home. If you have a preference please inform your child's tutor. Log in details for pupil email and online learning systems will be posted with the work packs.
4. Pupils and parents can contact members of staff via email. Pupils must use their school email addresses to communicate with staff.
5. Here at school, a deep clean of the site will be undertaken in preparation for reopening the school.

Public exams

The government has confirmed that national assessment will not take place this year and this morning the Standards & Testing Agency wrote to confirm that the following assessments, planned between April and July 2020, are cancelled:

- end of key stage 1 and key stage 2 assessments (including tests and teacher assessment)
- phonics screening check
- multiplication tables check

- science sampling tests
- all statutory trialling

As soon as I have a detailed update on changes to secondary assessment I will share it with you. The Secretary of State for Education confirmed that GCSEs would not take place this year but we do not yet know what arrangements will be put in place.

For now, I urge you all to look after yourselves and your families during this national emergency in the knowledge that those of us in the schools' community will continue to work in the best interests of the children you entrust to us.

If you have any queries or additional concerns of any kind, please do not hesitate to contact me at abailey@nightingaleca.org

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andre Bailey', written in a cursive style.

Andre Bailey
Principal