



ST HILDA'S
CE HIGH SCHOOL

St Hilda's CE High School
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Dear Parent/Carer

UPDATE

I thought that you may welcome an update in these very strange times. I probably do not have any of the answers that you want, but perhaps some reassurance may help.

Firstly, thank you all for your support. I have never 'closed' a school before. We were working to prepare for this as soon as it became a remote possibility. Every day the possibility grew until it became inevitable. During that time, all staff were preparing materials and support from a distance. Thank you for your quick responses regarding IT facilities so we could make sure that every student could access materials to help focus them during this worrying time for them.

I need to be clear that you are not **home schooling** your sons and daughters. **They are home learning!** The staff were asked by me to prepare materials to help students to consolidate and build on the learning and lessons that had already happened. I asked them to send exercises that gave immediate feedback and scores where they could. Our students need to see feedback quickly. It helps to motivate them. Those students who need additional support with their learning have had the support of our SENCO, Mrs Pritchard, and her dedicated team. We do all of this by using Show My Homework. Please make sure that your son or daughter can access this through their own account. We cannot see where they are up to if it is through your account. Our pastoral staff are making daily or weekly calls too and all students were given a list of places they could access support if they need to. They can let us know if they are worried about themselves or others by using the SHARP system on our website. What is not expected is that you will be delivering their lessons. They have all they need already.

These are strange times for them too, and whilst many moan about coming to school, its what they know and secretly enjoy! We all like routine. Forgive me if this sounds patronising, but as a mum of a 13-year old, I am having similar battles. Focus on what they have done. Try to keep the routine, as much as is possible, but school in the Code household starts a few hours after the real school did. As long as he does what he is meant to at some point during the day that is fine. Our children need to build up their resilience at these times and should not give up on work, but there is flexibility. They can ask friends, **not just you**. They can ask teachers after they have asked others in their class.

There are so many amazing FREE materials and websites out there. Please use them. I will tweet and send these as I get them. This is all learning. So are learning to cook, wiring a plug, changing a bike tyre, doing gardening; all valid things to do. What we need to know in life has never been contained in just textbooks and just exam specifications. And reading... they all have lots of time to read. Amazon have made their Audible books free of charge too! Lots out there to help us all at these difficult times. The image below was posted on Twitter today and its one of many. Our own PE department are doing daily PE sessions too!

9.00am - PE with Joe Wicks https://youtu.be/6v-a_dpwhro
10.00am - Maths with Carol Vorderman
www.themathsfactor.com
11.00am - English with David Walliams <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/>
12.00pm - Lunch (cooking with Jamie Oliver) <https://www.jamieoliver.com/features/category/get-kids-cooking/>
1.00pm - Music with Myleene Klass <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQh2wgJ5tOrixYBn6jFXsXQ>
1.30pm - Dance with Darcey Bussell <https://twitter.com/diversedancemix/status/1241098264373592065>
2.00pm - History with Dan Snow (free for 30-days) <https://tv.historyhit.com/signup/package>
4.00pm - Home Economics with Theo Michaels (Mon/Wed/Fri) <https://www.instagram.com/theocooks>

Non-daily events include:

Science with Professor Brian Cox, Robin Ince & Guests
<https://cosmicshambles.com/stayathome/upcoming-schedule>

9.30am Wednesday 25 March - Geography with Steve Backshall <https://twitter.com/SteveBackshall/status/1242058846941712385>

For your older kids, here are 50 free revision resources for 11+, GCSEs and A-Levels:

http://www.eparenting.co.uk/education/50_free_revision_resources_for_gcse_a_level_11_plus_and_sats.php

For our Year 11 and Year 13 students, I am expecting Ofqual and the exam boards to tell me what they need from teachers to be able to produce a final grade for you. It will be based on what your teacher believes you would have got as your final grade, but not just that. I will contact you separately as soon as I know. For Year 11, we are currently working through your guidance interviews by 'phone. Once we know your choices, teachers will be asked to send you interim work in preparation for your next steps in September. Year 13 who are going to university, go on the website and look at your reading lists. Start reading and preparing for your subject. Those looking for employment and apprenticeships, work on your CV, look at interview practice. Let us know if we can help!

You are in our thoughts and prayers and I wish it were school as usual, but we are all working together to get through this. Stay calm, stay focussed and stay safe at this very trying time.

I will remain in contact,

Jo Code

ADVICE AND SUPPORT INFORMATION

Safeguarding Resource Hub	A hub of national safeguarding resources for children, young people and all adults supporting them www.safeguardingresourcehub.co.uk
Liverpool Early Help Directory	A comprehensive directory of local services for families www.liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/early-help-directory
Hub of Hope – local services directory	Directory of local support services www.hubofhope.co.uk
CAMHS - Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services	Crisis line 0151 293 3577 www.liverpoolcamhs.com/support/camhs-crisis-care-team
PAPYRUS – suicide prevention	0800 068 4141 www.papyrus-uk.org
Young Minds – 24/7 crisis support	Mental health crisis support Text YM to 85258 www.youngminds.org.uk
KOOTH – over 14s on-line counselling	On-line counselling for 14-25 yr olds www.kooth.com
Talk Liverpool – over 16s counselling	0151 228 2300 www.talkliverpool.nhs.uk
MindEd – information on mental health	www.minded.org.uk
YPAS - young people’s support service	0151 707 1025 www.ypas.org.uk
Samaritans – 24/7 listening support	24/7 listening support Tel: 116 123 www.samaritans.org
Childline - 24/7 support and advice	0800 1111
Harmless - self harm support & advice	Information and support www.harmless.org.uk
Child Bereavement UK - bereavement support	01928 577164 www.childbereavementuk.org/cheshire
ADDvanced Solutions - ASC/ADHD/SEND support & info	Information & support for ASD/ASC/ADHD/SEND/Neurodevelopmental conditions 0151 486 1788 http://www.advancedsolutions.co.uk
Switchboard - LGBT+ support & advice	Information and support www.switchboard.lgbt 0300 330 0630
Addaction – drugs information and advice	0151 541 2856 www.addaction.org.uk
REFUGE – domestic violence support and advice	www.refuge.co.uk
eCRIME – on-line abuse advice	www.ecrime-action.co.uk

