

Date: 20 April 2020



**ST HILDA'S**  
CE HIGH SCHOOL

WISDOM  
HOPE  
COMMUNITY  
DIGNITY  
EQUALITY

### Dear parent and carer

I hope that you had a peaceful Easter and that you enjoyed the good weather. When the sun is shining and you are at home or in the garden, you can *almost* forget what is happening. It is hard to believe that as the birds are singing and the flowers are growing that the threat of Covid-19 is still very much present. We are praying for all of our St Hilda's family that you stay safe and well.

In my pre-Easter update I did want to stress that Easter was meant to be a break from studies for our students. Work was set, but was of a different sort. Now it is back to school for our students. There are a number of things to support learning at home which have been introduced today. BBC Bitesize has 5 podcasts a day and Oak National Academy have online lessons. I have asked departments to look at what is on offer on both of these sites, but until we are sure that it meets our high standards and what we want your sons and daughters to be learning, we will continue with setting our own work. We will also start to introduce new work to our students. We will do this in a way that should make it easy for them to access it and it may not be in the same order as our curriculum plan. Once again, please contact us if your son or daughter becomes overwhelmed by the quantity of work.

I have really enjoyed being in school to help with production of visors. I have been delivering them too, as have Mr Bellmon and Mr Fitzpatrick. We have supplied Alder Hey, Whiston, a number of care homes and hospices. We are working really hard as demand is high! We are about to start production of scrubs too as soon as the material arrives. I asked FOSH (Friends of St Hilda's) to start a fundraising page. Everything FOSH do is amazing and they didn't disappoint this time either! We have over £6,000 already!! The link is below, but I fully appreciate how badly affected many of you have been by this virus and are feeling it both financially and emotionally. A HUGE thank you to those who have donated and your lovely comments.

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/friendsofstildas-fosh?utm\\_term=BmaxNwjZr](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/friendsofstildas-fosh?utm_term=BmaxNwjZr)

I am updating our social media daily too, so please follow us on Twitter and Instagram.

We have changed from the Liverpool to the Government Free School Meal support programme. Mrs Noon has been working hard to get this in place. If you think that you qualify, but haven't had an email from us, please contact Mrs Noon via the school in-box.

Headteacher  
**Mrs J Code**  
BA (Hons), NPQH, FCCT

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If your son or daughter should have been taking external exams, I have already contacted you separately to say what is happening. I am meeting with all heads of department tomorrow to support them through the process of awarding grades to be sent to the board. We cannot share them with you, but each department is using as much information and data that it has to award these grades. There seems to be a worry amongst students that we are only using mock exam grades. Please rest assured that we are using so much more than mock grades!

Mr Bellmon is going to send all Year 11 students a transition to Year 12 booklet, including the chance to do a mini-EPQ (Extended Project Qualification). The step up from GCSE to A Level is a big one and this should support your son or daughter in their choices.

Please remember that this home learning is hard. We know that many of you are working, have additional responsibilities and are not trained teachers. I am going to stress again that this is not you home schooling, but it is our job to provide the resources for your child to continue his or her own learning. 98.1% of all students are using Show My Homework. Lots of staff who have school-aged children are sharing your experiences too. Don't think that because I am a headteacher means my son leaps out of bed and is ready to do a full day's learning. We are usually on reminder 20+ before he gets up. .. I use the word reminder, he prefers nagging!

We do not have any date regarding when we can re-open, but I have already written a plan so that we are ready to respond. It will, of course, be adapted when we know what the advice will be. I can truly say that I really miss going to our building and seeing the staff and students. Schools have always been so much more than just places of learning and as staff update me about students' well-being and their learning, making calls to lots of students, supporting you with your queries, the word family has never been more apt.

I will update you with any further advice I get from the Government or other links I think you may find useful.

We are all in this together, but apart. Keep in touch with us and please stay safe.



**Jo Code**

Headteacher