

14/05/2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID-19 Update – letter 14

We are not planning on returning to class based learning and education for pupils before September at the earliest. We will continue to provide respite support in school to support pupils and families during this challenging time, with an emphasis on ensuring we are able to limit interactions between people to reduce the risk of spreading coronavirus. The more pupils, staff and transport personnel that we have on site the higher the risk of transmission of the coronavirus.

We are currently reviewing the number of students on site from 1st June. As part of this planning it is going to be vital to understand the demand for pupils to be in school. Parents will not be fined for not sending pupils into school; if parents feel it is safer for their child to remain at home, we will fully support you in this decision and continue to be in contact with you. **Our position is very clear - if children and young people can stay safely at home during the Covid 19 Pandemic, they should.**

Please complete the questionnaire sent out today via 'Parentmail' no later than Wednesday 20th May 12.00 midday. If we do not receive a completed response, we will assume that you do not wish for your child to attend school during term 6. I will write to you further next week regarding the situation for after half term. As I mentioned in my previous letter (Letter 13) we will not be able to maintain social distancing in school.

FSM – The Free School Meal Voucher Scheme has been a challenge nationally due to the demand and access to the vouchers. I apologise for any delay in these coming to you as we are receiving them a week late. We are therefore now requesting vouchers a week in advance to ensure that this is not held up.

Thank you for your continued participation and support of school activities at home, which I know can be a challenge. One of our teaching assistants, Josh, has helpfully compiled a list of websites below that may be of use to you at home. There are also resources available on the school website through our STLS teams page. The link below also offers some special educational links with online videos with professionals guiding you through lessons; www.thenational.academy

Please stay home where possible, follow the Government's guidance and maintain social distancing protocols.

Yours sincerely,



Scott Jarred – Headteacher

Cosmic Kids Yoga:

Aimed at giving children the chance to learn yoga and mindfulness within an adventure story or guided relaxation. There are some fantastic videos on breathing techniques and mindfulness exercises. The videos range from short stories for nursery-aged children, to full length 30 minute adventures for KS1 and 2.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga/videos>

Youth Sport Trust:

This has a variety of different shorter and longer sessions that can be done at home; it does require some equipment such as tennis balls and frisbees but some kids might already have these at home. These would mainly be for Key Stage 3 and 4.

<https://www.youthsporttrust.org/free-home-learning-resources-secondary>

Greenhouse Sports #Homecoach:

These are daily sports and fitness activity videos that are designed to help children stay active. They also set regular challenges and have great resources for SEND children (second link).

<https://www.youtube.com/user/GreenhouseCharity/videos>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wmq2-SNqsTg>

Daily Mile:

The Daily Mile Foundation has put together some helpful tips on how you can still go out and do The Daily Mile, whilst keeping safe. They have put up some challenges that you might want to use.

<https://thedailymile.co.uk/at-home/>

Youtube Action Songs:

This is aimed at PMLD children and provide engaging action songs for students to follow along to. These 2 are examples but if you click on their pages you will find a lot more.

The Singing Walrus Action song;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dUXk8Nc5qQ8>

The Learning Station, Shake Your Sillies Out:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwT5oX_mqS0

The Kiboomers Kids Music Channel, Freeze Dance:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UcZWXvgMZE>

HSE Resource Pack for Older Children:

This is a resource pack put together by Cavan and Monaghan Children's Occupational Therapy School Age Team. It gives a lot of information that may be

useful for parents on topics such as fine and gross motor skills and organisational skills.

<https://ncse.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Supporting-Physical-Education-for-students-with-SEN-during-Covid-19.pdf>

Bringing the sunshine inside:

A few possible ideas and tasks to help children connect with nature, even while staying indoors. Links with other subjects as well.

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/News/News-results/National/2020/March/Bringing-the-sunshine-inside>

Moovlee:

Aimed at using exercise, meditation and breathing techniques to help children with their social, emotional and physical development. More KS1 and Early Years, some great resources.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsSS5kMpKCaJ_HhTM9-HKHg/videos

Zumba Kids:

Found this Zumba Kids playlist on YouTube that you may want to use.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymigWt5TOV8&list=PLsLdlyqFC4R5kDIsjwLNwc1RUiH06nEf3>

Brain Break Cards

These are printable cards with animal actions to perform!

https://www.123homeschool4me.com/free-brain-breaks-cards_3

Jump Start Jonny:

Free activities are uploaded every Monday. The mindfulness videos would be worth sharing.

<https://www.jumpstartjonny.co.uk/free-stuff>