



BEECHWOOD

Sacred Heart School

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Dear Parents/Guardians

I wanted to give you the most recent update on how the Covid-19 pandemic relates to all educational settings. Though mostly relevant to keyworker children that we continue to supervise at a very limited capacity, it also provides some very good advice about social distancing generally.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

“It was announced on 23 March that the UK would enter a stricter period of social distancing, with people only allowed to leave home for very limited purposes. The UK-wide measures are intended to delay the spread of the virus – if the majority of the country are strictly self-isolating, this allows for some people to gather where that is necessary, whether it be in hospitals, food production facilities, or in schools or childcare settings.”

We acknowledge the dramatic transformation for those parents who are now taking up their role as teachers while their children are at home. However, in these difficult times, the role of all parents of school-aged children as their primary educators will become even more important. I am aware that some parents might have been overwhelmed with the volume of work set, and we are in regular contact with our staff to work with them on any feedback they have received from you as parents/guardians.

Some elements of the remote learning provision will be susceptible to teething problems, in particular the volume and level of virtual traffic putting a huge strain on host servers and broadband capacities. These providers are working very hard to increase their capacities and the efficiency of data transfer – access, uploads and downloads. We have received messages from these providers, including Microsoft, as they develop quick and innovative solutions to the demand. Please try to upload materials in advance or at quieter times outside of school hours, go back to work previously attempted or any worksheets that have been printed to ensure completion.

The general advice for all of us as a united community remains the same. Please do not try to visit the school; e-mail is the best form of communication, whether that be a general enquiry or to specific teaching staff regarding set work. Over the coming weeks and months, the resolve of our country is going to be tested. Each of us will have to play our part, whether by supporting relatives and friends, assisting those in our communities who are vulnerable and in need, by social distancing or by self-isolating if we become ill.

Best wishes

Paul Kershaw

Acting Head