



20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## COVID-19 Update

Dear families,

I sincerely hope that you are all well and managing during the lockdown.

You will have had communication from your own schools in regards to the current situation. I want to re-iterate that the decisions to partially open / close are based on risk assessments carried out by the leadership teams, in conjunction with the school nursing teams, social care and the local authority – the underlying question is “is it safer for your child to remain at home?” Specific guidance for special schools on risk assessments was released last night and our previous assessments all remain as they were. We understand that this is a changing situation and so as the time progresses we will keep you informed of our plans.

We can't stress enough that these are unprecedented times and as such the way we are working has had to change. On the basis of the government announcement last night we know that 'Lockdown' will continue for a further 3 weeks and are unable to confirm what will happen beyond this.

In light of this please do look after yourselves and your own wellbeing. I would like to point you towards a piece of support from a psychologist who has a website with a range of resources that he is updating regularly - <https://understandyourselfbetter.com/maintaining-well-being/>

There are a few things you can consider, “5 ways to wellbeing” are a set of steps that have been researched and developed by the New Economics Foundation. I've adapted them a little for the current situation – please find attached.

You may have heard that the government is planning on giving laptops to vulnerable students - these are for year 10 students who will be undertaking GCSE exams next year, however the criteria is not clear yet. This will apply to only a few students and if your child is eligible someone from your school will be in touch.

As always, please stay safe and look after yourselves and your loved ones

Yours faithfully

Kevin Latham

[klatham@creatingtomorrowmat.co.uk](mailto:klatham@creatingtomorrowmat.co.uk)

07825 91227