

Parent 20 Clicks

COVID-19 Update

3.4.20



Dear Parents and Carers,



I hope you and your families are staying well and safe. Thank you for all that you are doing during this period of school closure. We face a great deal of uncertainty at this time and I am sure you have many questions about how your child's education will be affected by the school closure. As we get answers from the Government, we will inform you. Not least, most in our minds, is how KS4 qualifications will be awarded to ensure our year 11s get the grades they deserve in the absence of exams. This guidance will be shared with schools soon and we will be in touch.

We are here for all our families - do let us know if there is anything we can do to support you further via emailing [head@kingsdownschool.co.uk](mailto:head@kingsdownschool.co.uk)

For now wishing you and your family a peaceful Easter break.

Mrs Leigh-Bennett

# Safeguarding your children - weekly check-ins from staff



Once over the 2 week Easter and each week thereafter, we will continue to set a student online bulletin via Show My Homework.

This will be set as a homework task by your child's tutor by 9am on Tuesday 14th and the deadline will be 3pm on the same day.

Your child will have to respond to 3 questions using the comment section on SMHW under the task.

This is our weekly safeguarding check on your child and so your support in ensuring this is completed on time is essential. Should you have any additional concerns you would like to discuss, please contact your child's Progress Leader who liaise with the relevant staff.

Mrs Lees

# Safeguarding your children - Who can I contact if I am worried about my child?



Over this period, our safeguarding procedures remain the same. Should you be concerned about the welfare of your child, we are available to provide support and advice.

Issues that may arise are:

- Concerns about mental health
- Online/cyber bullying
- Peer on peer abuse (bullying)
- Managing relationships within your family



**SHARP**  
Confidential  
Incident  
Reporting

The safeguarding team comprises of:

The Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms S Magenty

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Karen Agambar.

Both can be contacted via SHARPs or [cp@kingsdownschool.co.uk](mailto:cp@kingsdownschool.co.uk)

The SHARPs link is found at the bottom of the school website homepage



# Safeguarding - Useful support

## Using more energy at home?

You may be worried about topping up meters or more electricity is being used because everyone is home.

### BRITISH GAS

If you're unable to do this, and you haven't got anyone to help you, please call 0330 100 0303 Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm and we'll help you.

**EDF:** Call 0330200 5110. They also operate a friendly, non-disconnection policy on most meters. So if you run out of credit after 6pm, your electricity will not go off until 9am the next day. This operates from 6pm- 9am Monday to Friday, 6pm on Saturday and any time on a Sunday or bank holiday, until 9am the next day.



# Safeguarding - Useful support

## Community support

Swindon Borough Council have a Live Well Hub and a compassionate Swindon group that have set up 'Here for Swindon'. You can make contact using the following address:

[www.swindon.gov.uk/HereForSwindon](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/HereForSwindon)

Help includes:

- council tax relief information,
- Information about volunteer support
- Housing support
- Bus pass support
- Parking options for key workers
- Access to the online library

# Safeguarding - Support from school nursing team



We are aware that it is a very anxious time and there may be concerns about where to access support in coming weeks. The school nursing service are here to support you during this time.

They have set up a **confidential telephone** drop-in service Monday - Friday 12pm - 2pm. Any young person that would like to call and speak to a qualified nurse on the end of the phone can call 0300 247 0090. Monday to Friday.

They also have their **CHAT health** text service so that you can text a school nurse for advice or support for any health issues or worries, again this is confidential and you don't need to give your name. The number is 07480 635513

# SEND support



We realise that at this difficult time, there will be lots of parents trying to think of things that can do to occupy their children at home.

Here are some tips that might help:

- Create a timetable to complete tasks from show my homework
- Keep learning to short bursts and don't worry if you don't get through all of the work.
- Get creative! Do some family baking, play games together,
- Enjoy the garden or outdoor space if you have it. If you don't have a garden, go out together for a walk or bike ride.

Swindon Borough Council is working with Swindon SEND families voice to ensure that information and questions are shared regularly. Information to support families during the COVID 19 crisis can be found on.

<https://swindon.mylifeportal.co.uk/content/send-local-offer/landing-pages/what-is-the-local-offer-landing-and-content-pages/updates-from-the-send-service-coronavirus/>





## Learning at Home: Over the Easter break

We appreciate that Monday 6th April would have been the start of our Easter holidays and a time for the students and staff to take a well-earned break. However, the next 2 weeks will not feel like a normal holiday.

Although we will not be setting any work during this period, the staff have wanted to develop a collection of activities and competitions to support students and their families during this challenging time.

They are designed to be fun, in many cases for the whole family and hopefully some positive memories will be created from taking part in these activities. We certainly look forward to seeing the photo and video evidence of your efforts.



## Learning at Home: Over the Easter break

The Easter Activities will be posted each week on SMHW but to support a quick access, please follow this link:

*Easter Activities -*

[https://www.kingsdownschool.co.uk/images/documents/2020\\_Easter\\_Activities.pdf](https://www.kingsdownschool.co.uk/images/documents/2020_Easter_Activities.pdf)

If you are unable to access SMHW please follow these instructions:

Go to the parent section of the school website and watch the video under HOMEWORK. Alternatively, download the app - you will only ever need your school e mail address and school log in password. If you have forgotten these, please e mail your progress leader.

## Learning at Home: After Easter



On-line learning will continue after the Easter break and more details of this will be shared in our future Parent 20 Clicks.

For now, please do take advantage of the suggested activities.

Thank you for your continued support as parents and carers.

Mrs Lindley



## Parent queries:

If you need to contact the school with any query, please email [head@kingsdownschool.co.uk](mailto:head@kingsdownschool.co.uk) or during the COVID-19 school closure or you can text 07860041670. As always we will aim to get back to you within 48 hours.

With our continued best wishes

Everyone at Kingsdown

# Safeguarding- Keeping your child safe

Safeguarding continues to be our number 1 priority and this will not change over this next period. We want to make sure that you have the right information to ensure that your children are safe and should there be an issue or worry you are able to access the right advice and information at the right time. Below are some useful headlines for you:

## Mental Health

Some children may have existing mental health concerns or may become very anxious during this period. STEM4 is a fantastic website that provides help and guidance for parents and children.

<https://stem4.org.uk/>

## Safeguarding

Our safeguarding team will continue to work during this period and will be contactable via the school website via SHARPs or on [cp@kingsdownschool.co.uk](mailto:cp@kingsdownschool.co.uk) . Alternatively Swindon Borough council have a variety of services available, these can be found via the Local Offer website : <https://localoffer.swindon.gov.uk/home>

## Bereavement

During these unprecedented times there may be a need for support with coping with bereavement, there are a number of local charities who are able to support. They are:

<http://www.treehousewiltshire.org.uk/>

<https://www.winstonswish.org/>

**Students will receive weekly safeguarding updates via Show My Homework**

# ACTION: Parent Survey



The last 2 weeks have been a significant change to our normal working practice, both for us as staff and you at home.

To capture your views and get feedback on how we are supporting and can continue to support your child during the period of school closure, please complete our parent survey by Tuesday 7th April.

[This will be shared via group call text message on Friday 3rd April.](#)

We will also be asking your child to complete a survey in next weeks student online bulletin - please support us by ensuring they complete it on Tuesday 14th.

# Useful links for advice



## NHS Website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

## • NHS 111 Online:

<https://111.nhs.uk>

## • NHS Coronavirus Service:

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>

## • NHS Advice for travellers: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/advice-for-travellers/](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/advice-for-travellers/)

## • PHE:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

## Where can I get further advice?

• You can contact Ms Magenty [smagenty@kingsdownschool.co.uk](mailto:smagenty@kingsdownschool.co.uk)

or Mrs Brown [hbrown@kingsdownschool.co.uk](mailto:hbrown@kingsdownschool.co.uk)