

Dear Parents/carers,

CV19 daily update (Issue 14 – Tuesday 31st March 2020 – 11.00am)



Dear parents/carers,

Apologies that the Issue 13 of the newsletter failed to reach a number of you yesterday. This was despite trying three times throughout the day to send! We have attached issue 13 with this communication and hopefully both will reach you today.

I am keeping this issue a little shorter with just a few items of potential interest.

We have analysed some statistics on the Virtual Learning Classroom (VLC) from last week. When in normal mode (i.e. – everyone is in school), the number of active Google classrooms will be around 400 per week. This doubled to 800 in week 1 of the VLC, with an average number of postings per day on Google Classroom leaping from 175 to 700 last week. The number of e-mails also rose by 400%. There were a total of 1700 Google Meets ('live lessons') overall, equating to around 60 'live' lessons per day involving around 1000 students each day.

Schools are finding their own solutions to the delivery of learning from a distance, and it will be interesting to see which result in the most productive use of time and development of long-term memory with students. We hope that our model will have a significant impact on learning and minimise any disruption due to CV19.

Whilst it is not possible to walk around the school to 'see' the learning, the statistics go some way to building confidence that learning is taking place.

Well-being

This guidance from the government about maintaining wellbeing during this period might be helpful to students / parents/ staff.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19>

We hope that there will be an announcement about Examination grades tomorrow. To finish, below are two articles that might be of use.

With best wishes

Alan Gray

Keeping your child safe on-line

The leaflet below has some useful reminders to us all.

PARENTS HELPSHEET: SECONDARY

Thinkuknow: keeping your child safe online while they are off school

Thinkuknow is the national online safety education programme from CEOP, the online child protection command of the National Crime Agency.

Thinkuknow helps parents, carers, teachers and others keep children safe from sexual abuse, offering learning activities, advice and support for children and young people aged 4-18 and their families.

While school is closed, here's what you can do to keep your child stay safe while they are learning, staying in touch with family and friends, and having fun online.

8 steps to keep your child safe online this month

1. Explore together: Ask your child to show you their favourite websites and apps and what they do on them. Listen, show interest and encourage them to teach you the basics of the site or app.

2. Chat about online safety little and often: Young people are likely to want to explore new apps and

websites this month, whether that's for learning or for fun. Take this opportunity to talk to them about how to stay safe on these new services, and in general. Ask if anything ever worries them while they're online. Make sure they know that if they ever feel worried, they can get help by talking to you or another adult they trust.

3. Help your child identify trusted adults who can help them if they are worried: This includes you

and other adults at home, as well as adults from wider family, school or other support services who they are able to contact at this time. Encourage them to draw a picture or write a list of their trusted adults.

4. Be non-judgemental: Explain that you would never blame them for anything that might

Understanding the media

This was put together by Mr. Whorrod and is a useful read.

Understanding the Media



A quick guide to help during these unprecedented times of uncertainty and media overflow.

The Media spotlight on key issues can be overwhelming and unsettling at the best of times. But especially during the recent Covid-19 outbreak, here are a few tips to consider when encountering 'news'.

Where?

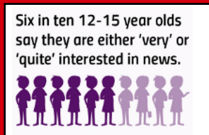
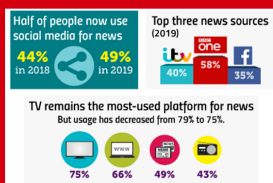


Image from: OFCOM special report July 2019
<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/tv-radio-and-on-demand/news-media/news-consumption>

With almost half of people gaining their news coverage from social media, there is more confusion and conflict than ever. We have been aware of media bias for years, just imagine how many opinions and versions of the same stories are created with the addition of social media!

Always consider who has published the news story you are reading, even if it claims to be from a trustworthy source.

Where is the story published and why, mainstream news has made big business from printing bad news (it sells!), so even during these difficult times, it's worth remembering that there are still many positive news stories happening all around us.

What can you do?



You can play a role in changing this.

Search for your own news coverage using Google News, they compile stories from multiple recognised, reputable (well mostly) institutions.

Use these platforms to inform your own judgements.

Think - before quickly sharing a link, does the story seem genuine? (If not, do some more research yourself).

Consider your own audience. Is what you are about to share suitable for all of your 'friends' and family?