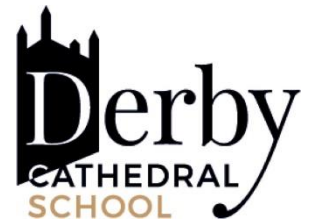


Derby Cathedral School
Family Newsletter
Monday 11 January 2021



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

After the first week of this current lockdown, I wanted to communicate with you all with some key information.

Home learning for students has changed significantly since the last lockdown and all our lessons are now 'live lessons' on Microsoft Teams. Whilst we know that this has taken some adjustment for everyone, the initial feedback we've had has been really positive. Thank you so much for supporting us with this. There are a few top tips further in the newsletter and details of how to get in touch if you need support with access to this technology. We do expect all students to be logged on with their tutor at 9am every day.

This week we will be introducing collective worship for all students again and will be communicating with year 9 students in the near future about their options process.

Switching to working in that way has taken a big effort on the part of all school staff and I wish to thank them all publically too. They have prioritised the welfare and education of our students despite having to make big changes to the way we normally work. Although this past week has been a huge challenge for all of us, I am so proud of the way the whole community has pulled together to support each other. Thank you so much for your part in this and please do continue to let us know if you need support with anything over this next half term and beyond.

Please do take some time to read this short newsletter so that you are aware of the key, important pieces of information.

Take care
Yours faithfully

Mrs J. Brown
Headteacher

**A message
from the
Headteacher**

Safeguarding

General message

Safeguarding concerns

If you have any concerns related to safeguarding then please do contact either social services or the police. If you feel that a child is in immediate danger then call 999.

Derby City Children's Social Care First Contact Team: 9am to 5pm 01332 641172 or out of hours 01332 786968

You can also report non-urgent concerns online

https://myaccount.derby.gov.uk/en/service/report_concerns_about_a_child

If you believe that a child is at immediate risk and in need of protection then you should **call the police on 999 or 101 immediately**.

Alternatively if you want advice from the police and the child is not in immediate need of protection, you can call them on 0845 123 33 33

You can also keep the safeguarding team informed of any concerns or issues.

Mr R Hoy (Designated Safeguarding Lead) r.hoy@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

Mrs J Nethercott (Deputy DSL) j.nethercott@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

The following helplines give support and advice on a number of issues including personal safety, mental health and well-being.

Childline: 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

NSPCC – 0800 028 3550 www.nspcc.org.uk

Samaritans – 116 123

Shout – www.giveushout.org Text Shout to 85258 This is a text helpline for anyone feeling anxious, worried or stressed and needing to talk to someone about it.

Kooth – www.kooth.com - This is an online counselling service for young people

Relate counselling – Help and support with emotional wellbeing and relationships. Available: Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10.00am – 1.00pm. The helpline gives people the opportunity to speak directly to an experienced Relate trained counsellor, without having to make an appointment. For further information contact 01332 349177 or 07741193484 or email info@relatederby.org.uk www.relatederby.org.uk

LGBT+ Support – <https://www.derbyshirelgbt.org.uk/>

Online Safety Parent Support www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/11-13s/

Useful Resources

Universal Credit

If you are having problems claiming universal credit then you may be eligible for an advanced payment. A Universal Credit Advance (new claim) is an advance payment of a customer's first estimated Universal Credit monthly payment. This may be paid if the customer is in urgent need of money, has made their universal credit claim and can't wait the 5 week period for their first payment.

Please use the following link for more information <https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/new-to-universal-credit/help-with-managing-your-money/>

Free School Meals

If you think that you are eligible for Free School Meals, please find further information regarding eligibility criteria and an application form via the following link:

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

You are also able to submit a completed application form to info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk where we will forward your application to Derby City Council asap.

Expectations

Students should be logged on by 9am every morning for a 15 minute registration with their tutor. Everyday, they must follow their normal timetable and can join their live lesson by clicking 'Join' on the live lesson invite on their timetable. This can be found in the 'Calendar' tab on Teams.

All written work should be completed in their Home Learning book that was given out/posted home before Christmas. Every lesson should start with a date and title. If your child fills their book, please let us know via info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk, or they can inform their tutor.

Attendance

We expect students to attend every lesson as we take a register for every live lesson. Teams gives us the time that students joined and left the lesson. If a student is leaving after too short a time, we will contact home. If your child is unwell for any reason, please contact school in the usual way to let us know.

Learning environment

It is useful for students to be able to have a space to work in, if possible for this to be a place where they can be quiet and focused. We also would advise that, just as in school, students do not have their mobile phones with them when in live lessons to avoid any distractions. Some students may benefit from using their headphones, especially if you have more than one child learning at home, but using these is just down to individual circumstances and personal preference.

We have deliberately designed the lessons to be slightly shorter than normal in order to give everyone a short screen break in between lessons. Depending on the subject and topic covered, each lesson will have a certain amount of time when student are watching and listening to instructions, and a set amount of time to complete some independent work. This may also help to give some breaks away from a screen. We would advise students to make the most of their set break and lunchtimes too and try to get some fresh air and exercise during these times and after period 6 has ended. Over the next few weeks, the PE department will be providing some guidance on exercise too.

Device and Internet Access

If you have any issue with accessing Microsoft Teams, please let us know asap and we will do what we can to support you. Please either telephone school or email us on info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

Microsoft Teams – Top Tips

Coronavirus Information

Lockdown

The advice for this national lockdown is; Stay at Home. All students must be following this advice unless they are attending the in-school provision.

All detailed guidance is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Coronavirus Symptoms



If you have any coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

[Get a test](#) and stay at home

If you wish to book a test, you can do so at: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119

In-School Provision

School is open for vulnerable students and the children of critical workers only. If you wish to request a place, please email info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

More information about who is eligible can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Lateral Flow testing

We are continuing with the set-up of the lateral flow test centre. These are just for secondary schools and are available for:

- Weekly testing of staff
- Mass testing of students attending school (two tests only)
- Serial testing of any staff and students who have been identified as a contact of a positive case within school.

We will be starting some of the above this week but they will only be carried on students whose parents have given consent. We will provide much more detailed information about all of this in due course. If you have any questions, please wait for this information first.

Currently, this will only affect those students who are attending the in-school provision.