



LITTLEPORT AND EAST CAMBS ACADEMY

An Active Learning Trust School

2nd April 2020

RE: Easter and beyond

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all well and taking care of each other in this unprecedented time and I wanted to write for a number of reasons before we 'break up' for Easter today.

Firstly I want to say a huge thank you to you all. Through social media, email and phone conversations I am hearing great things about what is happening at home. From baking, to building, poetry to PE, you have done us and your children proud. I cannot imagine how difficult it has been for you to be suddenly flung into the mad world of teaching at such short notice. However, the stories I have heard have been largely very positive and I can assure you that whatever your child has learnt over the past few weeks, it would have been so valuable to them. You can all take a sigh of relief for now as Easter is upon us!

I'd also like to reach out to all our families who have Year 11 or Year 13 students who have had their final years cut short. As a parent with Year 11 child at home, I know how you and they are feeling and I hope that they all get the results they need to move on. It has also been particularly upsetting to not have the last day and the Prom and I hope our local schools come up with a plan to make these happen for you, in some form or another. In any case, I wish your Year 11 and 13 children all the best of luck in the future.

In these times, it is so important to look after your physical health and your mental health too. We strongly advise you and your child to continue with the good physical routines that I know many of you have established. Likewise, your mental health is just as important and I'd like to point you to this section of the NHS Website for guidance and support: <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips/> . We are also available via email and phone during normal work hours if you need to discuss anything at all. Please refer to the website for teachers email addresses so you can direct your query to right person.

A note about Options. I am very happy to say that we have now secured an Engineering teacher and a Business teacher and you will soon receive an update to the booklet to reflect this. They are already showing on our Options portal so students can pick them now. We are aware of some issues with logging in and we are working to resolve these constantly. Can I ask that any queries should be directed to Mr Hughes, who has done a fantastic job in setting the portal up. His email address is daniel.hughes@lecacademy.org

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As directed by the Government, we will be open for children of Key Workers and those who are considered vulnerable throughout Easter and the Bank Holidays but we do ask that you only use this provision if there are no other options open to you. Our advice is the same as the Government: Stay at home, protect the NHS and help save lives.

Finally, none of us know when this will end. We are preparing for two obvious eventualities: to be open after Easter or to be closed for a further few weeks. As soon as we have more news on re-opening we will of course let you know and further information will be shared with regards home-schooling. Our teachers are already preparing materials for their students to access if they are asked to remain at home after Easter. In the meantime, try to have a lovely Easter break with the people close to you and please stay in touch. If you haven't engaged with our social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) please do, if only to be uplifted by some of the inspiring work being done by our students, teachers and support staff. If we do re-open, the first day of the Summer term will be Tuesday April 21st.

Take care of yourselves and your families

Scott Gaskins

Head of School, LECA.