



Friday April 3rd 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

ASPIRE Parents' Update Edition 2

As we approach the end of the second week of school closures, we're sure some of you will be looking out for further ideas and support at home. Thank you all for your hard work with the children.

How do I talk to the children about Coronavirus?

The Children's Commissioner for England has produced a really good guide for supporting you to have conversations with your children about the virus and how it's making everyone feel. Use this link to find the guide: <https://twitter.com/ChildrensComm/status/1245293856343633922?s=03>

Keeping Safe Online

At this time, with large numbers of children and adults working online, keeping safe is a major concern. The following links offer parents some excellent advice, relating to age specific materials, setting up devices safely and finding good quality resources. Please be careful. <https://www.internetmatters.org/>
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Welcome to Book Trust Home Time

Here's another great way to keep the children enthused about books. Enjoy story-time with free online books and videos, play games, win prizes, test your knowledge in book-themed quizzes, or even learn how to draw some of your favourite characters.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/?q=&sortOption=AtoZ&pageNo=1>



Thought about trying Drama?

With increased amounts of time spent indoors with the children, you might find the following link really useful. Here are five ways to incorporate drama skills into daily activities all around the house.

<https://www.londontheatre.co.uk/theatre-news/west-end-features/5-drama-activities-to-keep-the-kids-entertained-at-home>

First News

This is the UK's only children's newspaper around and this link takes you to a free copy of the most recent edition. A fun and informative read for children. Take care, because there's a charge for the usual subscription! <https://schools.firstnews.co.uk/remote-learning-resources/>

Aspire Academies Trust

Bedmond Academy, Bovington Primary Academy, Hammond Academy, The Grove Academy, Broadfield Academy, Knutsford Academy



Coping Calendar

There are bound to be times when you all struggle to cope with the current situation. This 'Coping Calendar' might give you some ideas to help you stay calm and enjoy spending time together. Great for the children as well as the adults! [coping_calendar.jpg](#)

Top Tips

Some really good ideas in terms of keeping well. Also, some ideas for working effectively at home.

https://kyrateachingschool.com/assets/downloads/Kyra_Wellbeing_Newsletter_-_WC_23rd_March_2020.pdf

We wish to remind parents that Aspire will continue to provide school places for parents, such as those who are key workers, throughout the two week Easter period, with the exception of the two Bank Holidays. We will be doing so by opening two of our six schools as hubs; one will be in the Watford area and the other in the Hemel/Bovingdon area. If this applies to you, you should have heard directly from your child's school by the end of the week.

We will send out our next update towards the end of the Easter break. As we approach the traditional Easter holiday period, despite the very unusual circumstances, we all hope you manage to have a happy and restful time over Easter.

Kind regards.

Vicky Parsey Lyndon Evans

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CEO and Executive Principal

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