

25th March 2020



**THE
HASTINGS
ACADEMY**

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Principal: Hilary Morawska

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope that as I write to you from a very empty school, on what is only the 3rd day of the lockdown, that I find you all very well indeed.

Thank you for your contact with our staff about work and how you and your child/ren can access their learning.

Our staff are endeavoring to find the most innovative ways to engage their students and only today, Miss Munday was showing me a fabulous piece of homework sent into her from one of her Dance students, that Miss Munday must now try to dance to!

I may well be putting out a challenge to my teachers asking them to find the most creative way of ensuring learning takes place.

Remember that reading good books and having your child/ren reading them to you and discussing the 'what next', the plot, sub-plots and character development, is all very much a part of learning and this should be a daily part of their curriculum.

Do ensure your child/ren emails in their teachers (on their school email address) and accesses the on-line work, for our staff will respond.

We all very much need to ensure we do not see a gap in anyone's learning with the loss of the children being in the classroom with their staff and the way to support this is to keep the children learning.

Thank you, again, for respecting the social distancing instructions which have tightened up and where no parent or child, unless part of the identified group of children is accessing the academy.

Our Trust Executive Team have advised that we will be able to provide E-vouchers, hopefully by Friday at the latest (if not tomorrow) for our families in receipt of Free School Meals.

A letter advising parents and carers as to how they can access the provisions from TESCO (our local one in Ore will accept them) will be with the voucher codes.



On this note, I do need to make you aware that whilst the nation is working together to support each other against the virus there are people who wish to take advantage of this situation and I wish you all to be very careful as there are scams and phishing linked to Free School Meal vouchers, so I need you to know that **the academy would NEVER request your bank details.**

So do be very careful with any message that comes from any source that requests your bank details.

I have found this information from the school's nurses, which may be of support for your child/ren:

Text Your School Nurse

Young people aged between 11 and 18 can access support from a qualified nurse by texting **07507 332472**. This is a confidential service available between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. This service will be maintained through school closures and other service disruptions. Young People can text for brief advice by text, or can connect with a school nurse via telephone/skype for one to one advice and support. Young People may want advice on a range of health issues including emotional health issues that may arise through this challenging period.

As always, from the staff, I wish you very well and thank you for your work with your children and contact with staff.

Do keep very well and very safe.

Kindest regards



Ms Morawska

