



21 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Update: Thursday 21.05.20

I hope that you and your families are continuing to keep safe and well.

I would also like to inform you of a few updates and reminders:

Widening School Provision

You will be aware of the increasing amount of media coverage around the issue of schools widening their provision to students in Year 10 and Year 12. Just to reassure you we are monitoring this very closely and currently considering what this may look like in practice whilst minimising risks and keeping staff and students safe. We will be updating parents as soon as more information is available. For now, we will continue to remain open for those children whose parents are key workers, those children with an ECHP or those with a social worker.

We are considering the ways to broaden home learning for examination groups. Mr Salmon is currently leading a trial of Microsoft Teams for online presentations. If your child has been part of the trial and they would like to give any feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Salmon at:

Dominicsalmon@archwayschool.net

Food Bank

We realise that during this difficult time circumstances change and we would like to draw your attention to support available from Stroud district foodbank:

'Stroud District Foodbank is here to help you if you can't afford basics such as food. We work on a referral system which means that you need a voucher from a local agency to get food.

Local agencies who can provide vouchers are Citizens Advice (0808 8000510) and P3 (01453 750480 or 0808 1682443), but also Stroud District Council housing dept, children's centres, health visitors and social services.

We also work with some schools and surgeries.

The agency will discuss your circumstances with you and issue a foodbank voucher if you need one and explain how to get the food. The agency can also provide longer term support if needed to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for your crisis.

During the pandemic we will deliver to you.'

May half-term

Whilst we remain open for key workers and vulnerable children, we will not be setting any work for home learning.

GCSEPOD

GCSEPOD have just added another 30 FREE webinars to help parents to use the platform, due to the very high demand over the last weeks

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WEBINAR LIST:

- May 21, 5:00 PM - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Jhb4DKAwRbChxt9C7-X9BQ
May 28, 12:00 PM - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ic7sPQCWTI-IPUxGICt2tg
Jun 4, 5:00 PM - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZhgXywxzQ8C4K6yC2VcK1w
Jun 11, 9:30 AM - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xp8TItAHREqBv6TWDKR85Q
Jun 15, 12:00 PM - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gtfa0fuwR8mmyAbsBT_ACw
Jun 23, 5:30 PM - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u5yd852DRyy1OFCaz9xn3A

Support and Mental Wellbeing

The Door (Young People)

The Door have started a new young person's phone line starting on the 18th May. This is aimed at young people aged 11-25 who would like to talk to someone about how they are feeling and how lockdown is going for them. This is not a crisis line, but they will be able to signpost young people to the most appropriate support.

01453 705350, Monday –Friday, 5-7pm.

www.thedoor.org.uk

Qwell

Qwell is an easily accessible online well-being service for adults in need of mental health support. Qwell supports adults who are struggling with their mental health. Some people may be struggling with social determinants such as smoking, bad housing or unemployment. Some are carers and some are living with entrenched problems or long-term conditions; others are coping with anxiety or depression.

Adults accessing Qwell can do so without the waiting lists or thresholds often associated with traditional services. They can join online peer support communities or access self-help materials once registered. This service is available county wide.

Please click on the following link for further information: <https://www.qwell.io/>

Gloucestershire Virtual Sports Day

This takes place on **26 May 2020** – and it is an event planned for ALL children and young people. Children are being encouraged to take part in an activity to have fun, participate and keep active. They are also being encouraged to get their friends and families to donate to the Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gloucestershire-county-council>

Every child and young person will have different abilities so should set a challenge which is suitable for them, whether it is 10 minutes or two hours. It is the taking part that counts.

- Do an activity in your garden or home!
- It can be as silly or as sporty as you like!

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a good half-term break and would also like to thank you for all your support over the last term.

Yours faithfully



Kay Young
Acting Headteacher