



1 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

COVID-19 Update: Friday 01.05.20

Being the most unusual start to the summer term, and with the retirement of Colin Belford yesterday, I thought it would be good to provide you with an update to reassure you that we are, and will continue, to work hard to support you and your children.

As the school still remains closed to the majority of students, we have been contacting you individually to keep in touch; today we have completed the first round of these phone calls. These have been welcomed by staff and many of you. It is our intention that we will be in touch with you again before half term.

There is still uncertainty surrounding the re-opening of schools and the government have not yet published any plan for a return. We will therefore continue to provide resources and feedback to support home learning. Please do remember that if you have any queries or issues with online learning there is a page containing information available on the student's tab of our website <https://www.archwayschool.net/page/?title=Students&pid=72> or you can contact Dominic Salmon, Deputy Headteacher, at: dominicsalmon@archwayschool.net.

I would also like to take this opportunity to provide you with the following information:

Safeguarding

If there is a concern about a child being at risk during this time of closure, please contact us at: safeguarding@archwayschool.net.

Online Safety

As children are spending more time in front of a computer screen than usual due to online learning, I would like to make you aware of the following websites:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/> - support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> - support for parents and careers from the NSPCC

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> - advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online

Support and Mental wellbeing

Due to the on-going nature of this current situation, we know many families will need extra support. The Family Information Service is a confidential space for parents to talk, receive support and practical advice where this is needed. Please click this link to view a document which provides more detailed information:

<https://www.archwayschool.net/attachments/download.asp?file=445&type=pdf>

The following websites are also available for support:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/> - a charity which provides advice and support for young people affected by poor mental health.

<https://www.anxietyuk.org.uk/> - a charity which supports those with anxiety and provides specific resources for dealing with anxiety and coronavirus.

Bank Holiday – Friday 8th May

Please be aware that school will be closed to all students and staff on Friday 8th May. Students will not be provided with work on that day.

Finally, I hope that you will join me in wishing Mr Belford all the best for his retirement; he has given so much to Archway School for the last 20 years and will be sorely missed.

Yours faithfully

Kay Young
Acting Headteacher