



# Saint Edmund Arrowsmith

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### National Lockdown Spring Term 2021

Dear Students, Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. As per the Prime Ministers announcement late yesterday, we are now in a Tier 5 lockdown in England. As per this **instruction schools are to remain open only for pupils considered to be vulnerable or children of key workers**. I have attached a document that lists these categories (Appendix 1). **All other pupils will be taught remotely**.

Before we broke up for Christmas all pupils in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 were sent home with a remote learning pack which included their timetable and log in information. If children in these year groups were not present on the last day of term the packs were posted home. For year 11 these remote learning packs were posted home yesterday and should arrive today or tomorrow.

**Live lessons on MS Teams will begin today for year 11 pupils and tomorrow for all pupils.** Live lessons will continue as per your child's usual timetable until February half term. **Pupils are expected to log on to all lessons and submit the work in real time at the end of the lesson using the turn in function on assignments. If your child does not attend school on line they will be considered absent and you will be contacted by school.** If your child is unwell please contact the attendance team [attendance@seaonline.org.uk](mailto:attendance@seaonline.org.uk) and inform them of your child's absence as if they were attending in person.

**If you do not have the facility for your child to work remotely, either because of technology issues or space, then your child is considered to be vulnerable as they cannot access their learning and they must attend school in person.** We do not have the facility to provide technology for pupils to use at home. Technology provided by the government has been distributed to the pupils they were identified for.

We will be monitoring engagement in lessons, the submission of and quality of pupil work throughout this period of remote learning. If we identify that your child is not engaged in learning you will be contacted and asked to send them to school. I recognise that this set of expectations is different to the lockdown we experienced in the Spring and Summer Term last year. I strongly encourage you to support your child to stay in a routine, identify a space for them to work from at home and have a daily conversation with them about their learning and the work they are submitting. If learning at home is a challenge then they are welcome to attend to school and we will support you the best we can to enable this.

### **Free School Meals**

We have been asked to order and provide food boxes, not vouchers for pupils who are entitled to a free school meal. These are on order and these families will be contacted in due course regarding collection.

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Telephone: 0151 477 8770 • Email: [admin@seaonline.org.uk](mailto:admin@seaonline.org.uk)

Twitter: [@StEdArrKnowsley](https://twitter.com/StEdArrKnowsley) • Website: [www.stedmundarrowsmith.org.uk](http://www.stedmundarrowsmith.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs. H. Pinnington BSc (Hons), PGCE, MEd, NPQH



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### Year 11 Exams

The Department of Education have stated

*'In these circumstances, we do not think it is possible for exams to go ahead fairly this summer. The Secretary of State for Education will be asking Ofqual to consult rapidly on an approach for alternative arrangements that will allow students to progress fairly.'*

I do not know any more than you at this point in time, and I appreciate the frustration, worry and disappointment this will be causing. However, as with last year some form of assessment of learning WILL take place. Therefore it is very important that year 11 engage with their live lesson and continue to learn and progress through their planned curriculum. Last year we had to provide evidence from pupil's work of our teacher assessed grades. I do not know what OFQUAL will ask of us this year, but I would be surprised if it does not require evidence of attainment and progress, so pupils work will inform a vital part of this. **Please encourage and enable your child to attend lessons on line or in person if they need to.**

### Home/School Communication

**Pupil communication** will be via their school email and MS Teams. Log in details were provided in the learning packs. Any issues please email [admin@seaonline.org.uk](mailto:admin@seaonline.org.uk) or call reception between the hours of 8am - 4pm.

**Parent Communication** continues to be via our parent **Class Charts App**. Please download this from your app store and contact school for your unique log in code. Currently 80% of parents are registered with the app, however many are not checking for messages or announcements. As this is our main communication tool I would strongly encourage you to get into the habit of checking and using this app so you are aware of what is happening. Announcements are also made regularly on @StEdArrKnowsley and our school web site [www.seaonline.org.uk](http://www.seaonline.org.uk)

If you need to contact school then you can call reception 0151 477 8770, 8am-4pm or email [admin@seaonline.org.uk](mailto:admin@seaonline.org.uk). If your child is unwell and cannot log in to complete work on any day please call reception or email [attendance@seaonline.org.uk](mailto:attendance@seaonline.org.uk)

I appreciate that we all need a little time to get used to these new arrangements. Please stay safe follow government guidance regarding lock down restrictions and isolate and arrange testing if you or any of your family displays symptoms of COVID 19. (High temperature, new persistent cough, loss of taste or smell) We need to do this to keep each other safe and support our wonderful NHS and other key workers.



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Thank you for your continued support if we work together we will be able to ensure that your children get access to the lessons and learning they are entitled to and we keep safe.

Yours sincerely

H Pinnington (Mrs)

Headteacher

## **Appendix 1**

### **Vulnerable children and young people**

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
- children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
- adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
- those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
- those living in temporary accommodation
- those who are young carers
- those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)



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- care leavers
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health

### **Critical/Key workers**

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

#### **Health and social care**

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

#### **Education and childcare**

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

#### **Key public services**

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system



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- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

### **Local and national government**

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies

### **Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

### **Public safety and national security**

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)



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- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

### **Transport and border**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

### **Utilities, communication and financial services**

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors