



Blackfriars Newcastle Reception:
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Blackfriars Bulletin

Volume 6 Issue 11



Dear Parents,

I wanted to begin by thanking you for your incredible support over the last few weeks, it has been an incredibly difficult period, heightened by the knowledge that all of our children are more vulnerable by the very nature of their needs. I am therefore very grateful that all of you are heeding the Government advice to stay at home. School is therefore currently closed but this can be reviewed on an individual basis (in the first instance, please contact school)

I am really hopeful that over the Easter holidays, you and your family will all be able to rest. Trying to 'home school' is incredibly difficult as a parent (I have had all sorts of reports from staff who are 'home schooling their own children who have been working out how to make Viking ships with no glue; develop skills as researchers, use ICT skills they never knew they had!) This process can be frustrating and cause anxiety not only for the child but also for you as parents and carers. Therefore, over the Easter holidays, there will be NO work set and no regular phone communication. You can, of course, still continue to contact us through the usual methods – email and phone. Our students will gain a great deal from having the opportunity to rest, relax and be together. If you do feel desperate to 'teach' your child, please concentrate on their 'Lifeskills' – where possible, activities such as getting dressed independently, helping to wash up etc. There are also a whole host of on-line resources that will still be available via our website in the home work section:

http://www.blackfriarsacademy.org.uk/A_Blackfriars_Education/homework/educational-resources

Free School Meal Vouchers:



The Free School Meal voucher that some families received for £20 on Friday 27th March was paid for by school and was to cover the period up to 3rd April. The Government have widely advertised that they are going to make available vouchers to cover free school meals for £15 a week. However, these are

not available for the Easter Holiday period. Whilst ordinarily we would not provide free school meals during holiday periods we find ourselves in unprecedented times and we wish to support our families as much as possible. Therefore, £15 vouchers are being issued for the Easter period by exception. We will not be able to support in future holiday period. These vouchers will be sent out to email addresses early next week and then again week beginning 13th April. If you have any difficulties downloading your voucher, please contact lgroves@blackfriars.shaw-education.org.uk who will be happy to help

Safeguarding Contact Information

Staffordshire

First Response :
0800 1313 126
Outside office hours:
0845 6042886

Stoke-on-Trent

Advice and Referral Team:
01782 235100
Outside office hours:
01782 234234

Cheshire East

Referral Team :
0300 123 5012 Option 2
Outside office hours:

Shropshire

Referral Team:
01743 254 259
Initial Contact Team:
0345 678 9021
Outside office hours:
0345 678 9040

Adult Safeguarding referral numbers

Staffordshire: First Response –
0845 604 2719

Stoke on Trent: Adult Social Care –
0800 561 0015

