



The Orchard Centre & The Nightingale Centre

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Head of The Orchard Centre:

Ms J Blake, BA (Hons) PGCE

Head of The Nightingale Centre:

Miss L Watson, BA (Hons)

Executive Headteacher

Miss Rachael C Brown BA (Hons) PGCE, NPQEL

7th January 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope that both yourself and families are keeping well in these challenging times.

We remain committed to ensuring that your child is still able to access a full curriculum provision throughout this lockdown period.

Over the coming days, you will be contacted by staff members to ascertain what access to technology you may have at home. We may be able to support student access to laptops if this would be beneficial. Please let us know if this is something we could investigate on your behalf.

As per my previous communications, we will be delivering 'virtual learning' via Microsoft Teams daily. Your child should have received their Teams login details in the post back in December 2020. If you would like any information on how to access Microsoft Teams, please see our website for details or do not hesitate to contact me and I will happily offer support for this process.

Learning will be delivered via a combination of live sessions, project-based tasks and assignments and your child will have access to a range of a virtual classrooms from which to access their work. They should also make sure that they are checking their Teams notifications to access invitations to live sessions and ensure deadlines are met.

If you would prefer paper-based activities, again, please let us know and we will arrange fortnightly delivery of work and collection of completed tasks to be returned to Centre for marking and assessment. There will be a copy of the delivery calendar available on our website. Please let staff know in those initial phone calls if you would prefer paper-based activities and we can get this prepared for you.

It is vitally important that your child engages with their education to ensure that they are able to continue to learn and progress over the coming months during Centre closure. Government guidelines suggest that young people should be

aiming for 3-5 hours of learning per day whilst at home. We are fully committed to ensure that this is accessible to every child.

I will also provide a list of trusted online resources to utilise throughout closure to support the learning that subject staff provide. This will also be available on our website.

Thank you for your support in these challenging times and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns or questions.

Kind Regards,

Andy Higgs
Assistant Head for Quality of Education