

From the Education Office - Special Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

We hope and pray that you, your staff, governors and families are all keeping well and safe. We are missing the everyday opportunities our role gave us to catch up with you all in your settings. The tremendous changes that you have made and the resilience that schools have shown is humbling. Thank you for better enabling our nation to withstand the covid-19 threat and the weekly NHS doorstep applause does embrace your efforts too.

The challenges facing the diocese are the same that are affecting all businesses with salary costs to meet and we will be using every opportunity to reduce our expenditure as well as taking advantage of the government's job retention scheme. Whilst we are all subject to this lockdown, there are areas of our activity that are not required at this time. Given the current situation, it is highly unlikely that SIAMS inspections will start before the new academic year or even the new calendar year. I will write again when I am able to update you but we will do all we can to ensure that we have the capacity that is required to support your work. This will of course be kept under review as the national picture develops.

As we reflect on this unique Holy Week, we remember that first Easter Day when Jesus' friends discovered the empty tomb and realised that He had risen from the dead. We share in their Easter Joy.

God bless

John Searson

SIAMS Hub – Summer Term: All SIAMS hubs for the Summer Term have been cancelled. Please keep an eye on our website for future dates.

Family Craft Activities: Craft activities for families using Bible stories:

<https://youtu.be/XX8gLW1du28>

<https://youtu.be/tN4sv-LqFN8>

Free Book of Prayers linked to Social Distancing: Schools can download a free book of prayers.

<https://proost.co.uk/free-stuff/socially-distant-by-tim-watson>

Home Worship Guidance: We have uploaded a number of useful resources for home worship.

<https://exeter.anglican.org/schools/coronavirus-resources/>

Holy Week Resources: The Diocese of York have published resources designed to help individuals reflect and celebrate Holy week at home.

[Holy Week @ Home](#)

Free access to support UK Schools and Parents: Pearson Primary are offering free access to a range of teaching and learning resources on their Activelearn Primary platform. To access this free resource you will need to complete the online request form:

[Primary Support](#)

[Secondary Support](#)

[Support for parents and learners](#)

Nature Detectives: An opportunity for children and young people to become Nature Detectives. There are a number of organisations and websites who provide a variety of safe nature discovery activities. Providing children with fun activities to undertake whilst on their walks.

<https://exeter.anglican.org/schools/coronavirus-resources/>

DfE Covid-19 Governance Update The DfE have now published a Covid-19 Governance Update providing the latest departmental and government advice on the spread of this virus, and how this relates to the role of those on governing and trust boards and clerks / governance professionals. Please visit the website to find out more.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-governance-update/school-governance-update-march-2020?utm_source=GT&utm_medium=SH&utm_campaign=Mar

We have set up a webpage which we will continue to update during this period. You can access this page using the following link:

<https://exeter.anglican.org/schools/coronavirus-resources/>