

From the Education Office - Special Bulletin

Dear Colleagues

We hope that you managed to get a break of some description over the Easter holiday period and that the summer term has started as positively as it could. We appreciate and admire your swift investment in the on-line provision of home learning. We will try to supplement your efforts through our signposting of useful digital resources that you might use or share with parents where appropriate. Our weekly bulletin is intended to update you on recent developments but it will only be sent if there is something worth saying. Our diocesan website will be our key tool to support you at this time.

The Exeter Diocesan Board of Education is dependent upon funding that is generated from three main sources. Firstly investment income, secondly trading income from our training programme and SLA and finally a contribution from the common fund given by parishes. All these funds are likely to be much lower than last year. The covid-19 lockdown has resulted in a significant reduction in our ability to undertake our role, so from the start of the summer term, we have placed half the education team on furlough leave. Their out-of-office emails will direct you to the education@exeter.anglican.org email address that Angela will field to the rest of the team to follow up if necessary. We will review the situation as it develops and can return staff to their roles if the national picture changes and we are more able to actively support your work.

Currently Fran Bradley, Ed Pawson and Sarah Owen have started furlough leave this week. Tatiana Wilson will move to furlough leave from 27th April. Given the restrictions in place we believe that we have retained sufficient capacity to support your work. **All training and meetings have been cancelled for the rest of this academic year.**

The lockdown restrictions in the SW look to be reasonably effective and we may be spared the full impact of the virus that larger metropolitan areas are facing, however please remember that your local clergy are keen to support your essential work and can add significant capacity to your pastoral efforts. Please contact us if we can assist with this connectivity as some clergy are self-isolating but most are playing an amazing role through digital channels. We all need to look after each other especially at this time, so please do try to keep in touch with colleagues through your networks.

God bless

John Searson and the Education Team

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/>

We also have a Facebook Page. Please like and join our page and group 'Exeter Diocese's Education Team'

School Admission Appeals: New legislation is expected on 24th April to enable appeals to go ahead this term. Guidance was published on 14th April. Please contact your LA for advice on the revised timetable and arrangements for admission appeals. [Click here.](#)

Family Reflections Community Arts Project: This is an open invitation for anyone within the community to utilise their creative skills to create a bank of family reflection activities for Early Years, Primary and Secondary-aged young people. Please promote this in your schools and wider community. More details can be found [here.](#)

Grief and Bereavement: Sadly, it is likely that many in our school communities will be affected by Coronavirus and we have produced separate suggestions of [bereavement resources](#) for those supporting others after a bereavement. Included are some ideas to help children and young people explore feelings of loss of all kinds; [Exploring Loss with Children.](#) Tatty is available next week if you want to talk through anything.

RE Support continues through your local [Learn Teach Lead RE Hub Leaders](#) and SACRE Leads. We are putting the final touches to an inspection toolkit for Primary and Secondary Schools which we will be sharing next week.

Free CPD Opportunities: Laura Tsabet has created a list of free CPD opportunities. [Click here.](#)

Free School Meal Voucher: Bite Back has a number of suggestions for making the £15 free school meal voucher go further. [Click here.](#)

Additional resources:

- The first edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica is available from [The National Library of Scotland.](#)
- Information, resources and links for the daily maths lessons hosted by Gareth Metcalfe. [Click here.](#)
- Explore More resources allows children of all ages to work and have fun together with great stories. [Click here.](#)
- The National Theatre have made 30 productions available to stream for free in your classrooms. [Click here.](#)
- Ten of the world's best virtual museum and art gallery tours. [Click here.](#)