



3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

STATION ROAD KNOWLE SOLIHULL B93 0PT  
01564 773 348  
WWW.ARDEN.SOLIHULL.SCH.UK

Dear Parents/Guardians

We would firstly like to thank you for all you have done to support our transition into remote learning over the last three weeks - we appreciate that this is an exceptionally difficult time for all of us. The complexity of supervising and supporting your children learning at home, as well as juggling your own work commitments and normal family responsibilities, is quite a challenge.

We have managed to begin this new way of working very efficiently when you consider the scale of the change we have all been part of. At the heart of this has been our ability to all work together to support the best provision for our children. As always, we pride ourselves on teamwork - I don't think this has ever been more evident. Once again, we thank you for all that you have done to support this.

We have been delighted with the way our students have responded to this challenge, the maturity that they have shown in adapting to a new style of learning is very impressive. Staff really admire the discipline that students have shown in adapting to working for long and sustained periods of time at home. Maintaining these routines and structures will continue to be essential in supporting our students to manage this challenging time with a sense of some normality and purpose. Our children need to have a healthy balance of learning, exercising, relaxing and being creative. Supporting and investing in their mental health and well-being is now more important than ever.

There have been a number of surveys over the last two days and we thank you for taking the time to respond. This feedback is crucial in our drive to ensure that the provision for our children is as effective as possible. We, as a school, will now reflect on this feedback as we continue to develop and improve this new way of working. This is a new world for all of us and will be a continuous journey of reflection as we move forwards.

At our initial point of closure we advised that school was closed until at least Monday 20th April 2020. Since then Government directives have identified the closure period as being until further notice. We, like you, do not know how long this situation will go on for. We will continue to communicate as much as we can with you and our students to ensure that you are well informed of all things related to your child's education and well-being. It is of the utmost importance to us that all of our students and parents/guardians still feel connected to and involved with us as a school, despite the fact that we are all working remotely.



ARDEN ASSOCIATE HEADTEACHER: MR D WARWOOD BSC (HONS) | TEL: 01564 773348 | EMAIL: OFFICE@ARDEN.SOLIHULL.SCH.UK

Arden is part of Arden Multi-Academy Trust, a Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales. No. 7375267. Registered Office: Station Road, Knowle, Solihull B93 0PT

There is information on the school website that relates to the school closure and important information - 'School Closure Information' (previously labelled 'Coronavirus Updates') - <https://www.arden.solihull.sch.uk/school-closure-information/>. Please check here regularly for any updates, information and guidance.

The Easter break provides a well needed space for our students, our staff and you as parents/guardians to take a well-deserved rest and step back from what has been a very intense and challenging time. To that end, we want to make it clear that we are not setting work over Easter. In response to parents' feedback we have, however, included in our Newsletter (which we will be sending out very soon) a variety of links to activities that you can enjoy over Easter. We would like for everyone to have a real rest and time to recharge over the next two weeks before we restart learning on Monday 20th April 2020.

Finally, during the Easter break the school office emails will be monitored Monday-Friday from 9am to 12pm only. Emails will be sent on to the applicable member of staff, but please do not expect a reply until week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> April, when our staff are back at work. The exception to this will be emails regarding Key Worker children's attendance at school over the Easter break; these emails will be sent on to Miss Page who will reply.

We wish you all a safe and relaxing Easter break; take good care of yourselves and once again thank you.

Best wishes



**Mr D Warwood**  
Associate Headteacher