



20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know at the end of today we will be closed for the vast majority of our students until the government decides that schools should reopen. The government has published a useful FAQ document to support parents during this time:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

I would like to thank you for your support and understanding over the last few weeks as we have responded to the emerging Coronavirus situation. I know that for many parents the closure of our school will be a blow and will add to the challenges we are facing. However, we will continue to support you as much as we can in the coming weeks to ensure that your child's education does not suffer even if they will not be able to attend school.

During the last few weeks, we have been preparing for the school's possible closure and I would like to outline how we plan to support you and your child during this period of school closure and if they are not in school.

Your child should have received their Show My Homework Log in details, either by post or in school.

If your child was in school, they will have received a reminder of their email address and their revised password to allow them to log on to Microsoft Teams.

A letter containing Show My Homework Log in details and students' email addresses and passwords will be sent home to all students from Monday.

Additionally, we will be distributing a 'How To' guide for students to support them in accessing Microsoft Teams, and to provide further direction and guidance.

From Monday, students and parents will be able to access learning materials via Show My Homework.

Later in the week, we expect to be able to start providing live lessons and recorded guidance for students.

If your child is not able to access the internet at home, please contact the school to let us know and we will ensure work is sent home for them to complete. Please call the school office on 03333 602140 to let staff know.

We will be in regular contact with you to advise you on what is available for students and how they can interact with their learning. Where appropriate we will also be providing opportunities for students to have their work assessed and receive feedback.



ASPIRE, ENDEAVOUR, ACHIEVE

www.thevictoryacademy.org.uk

Director of Education (Chatham): Ms M Gage BA (Hons) NPQH
Chief Executive Officer: Mr S Gardner BA (Hons) MSc NPQH NLE

Magpie Hall Road, Chatham,
Kent, ME4 5JB

T: 03333 602140
E: office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk

The Victory Academy is a member of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust, whose registered address is Park Crescent, Chatham, Kent, ME4 6NR. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 7359755



In addition, this is clearly a national effort and we understand that the BBC will be looking to support parents by providing additional educational content:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/latestnews/2020/bbc-keeping-nation-informed-educated-entertained>.

We suggest that parents agree a schedule or timetable for the day with their child that will incorporate some schoolwork but also other activities to give students a structure for their day and the security of knowing what you expect of them during this time. It is important to remember that we do not know how long schools will be closed for and it is important that children establish a purposeful routine from the outset.

The government has also been clear about the need for us all to maintain social distancing to reduce the transmission of Coronavirus. This will be important whilst the schools are closed because young people will naturally want to interact. In summary, we need to remind our children that they should:

- Avoid contact with someone who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough
- Avoid non-essential use of public transport.
- Avoid large gatherings and gatherings in smaller public spaces.
- Avoid gatherings with friends and family. Keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet, and social media.

Full guidance on social distancing can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff who have worked incredibly hard to maintain the best possible provision for students in very challenging circumstances over the last few weeks. I know how committed each and every one of them is to doing their very best to ensure that all our students are able to access the best possible support and learning materials in the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Ms M Gage
Director of Education (Chatham)



Artsmark
Platinum Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



ASPIRE, ENDEAVOUR, ACHIEVE

www.thevictoryacademy.org.uk

Director of Education (Chatham): Ms M Gage BA (Hons) NPQH
Chief Executive Officer: Mr S Gardner BA (Hons) MSc NPQH NLE

Magpie Hall Road, Chatham,
Kent, ME4 5JB

T: 03333 602140
E: office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk

The Victory Academy is a member of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust, whose registered address is Park Crescent, Chatham, Kent, ME4 6NR. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 7359755