



# Ark All Saints Academy

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents

I am sitting writing to you watching it pour with rain! I'm not sure which is worse, being unable to go out as usual on a sunny day or a wet day. I certainly don't miss wet lunches though at school!

### **Principal Question Time:**

Each week I have started to ask a question to all staff and scholars called **Principal Question Time**. The intention is for us to share our experiences and feelings and for us to remember that we share common ideas and are therefore in this together.

Please encourage your child to participate before Thursday midday so that their ideas can be recorded –as well as publishing them, I am expecting to keep these over the next months, collate them and use them over the years to come when we return as reminders of our shared history and experiences.

The responses to the first survey can are now published on the SMHW noticeboard as is the link to next week's survey, or you can access it here -

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9PYV82Z>

### **Communication:**

We are now limiting our text messages to contacting priority 1 contacts from our records. This will help avoid your emergency contacts (sometimes a neighbour or grandparent) receiving messages about logging into Show My Homework.

We are also relying on emails to make contact with you, please make sure we have your most up to date and correct email addresses.

We hope you understand why we have decided to communicate this way, please contact us via [info@arkallsaintsacademy.org](mailto:info@arkallsaintsacademy.org) if you need to update your contact details or this will cause any problems.

### **Scholar work**

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May the teaching staff will not be available online to help scholars with work as they will be in team meetings all day, however the year 10 live Maths lesson on Microsoft Teams will still go ahead as planned.

As Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May is a bank holiday and we will not be setting classwork. Pastoral support will be available as usual.

**Ark All Saints Academy**  
140 Wyndham Road  
London SE5 0UB  
T +44 (0)20 7450 5959  
[info@arkallsaintsacademy.org](mailto:info@arkallsaintsacademy.org)  
[arkallsaintsacademy.org](http://arkallsaintsacademy.org)



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## **Live Lessons**

We have now launched live lessons for years 10 and 9. These take place every day, Year 10's live lesson is at 10:40am and Year 9's lesson is at 9:45am. Please check with your child that they know how to log in and are ready to start on time. Although all lessons are being recorded and are available to watch online at any time, we know that scholars are missing the real teacher experience which they will only get if they can access the lessons at the set times.

## **Year 9 into 10 Pathways**

We will be writing to parents of Year 9 scholars on Monday about which subjects they will continue to study in Year 10. You may want to use this weekend to start talking with your child about what subjects they have enjoyed and feel like they are progressing well in. We will provide as much support remotely with this process as we can as we know how important it is to get this right.

## **When will we return to school?**

I know that this question is being asked by staff, scholars, parents and the media. The answer is that we have not yet had any clear guidance. There is much speculation about this on all sides. I will email you as soon as we have been told anything. It is therefore vital that you make sure we have the correct email addresses for you.

## **Expectations upon return**

During this time of lock down I am aware that children of friends have taken advantage of the freedom of being away from uniform expectations and have, for example, dyed their hair non-academy colours. Please can I ask that we remember that this will end at some point and the academy will resume as normal. We will not allow any excuses.

## **Stationary**

We are aware that some scholars may have run out of paper. We are currently trying to find a way of supporting you with this. If it is an issue for your child please let your PD/DPD know.

And finally....

Thank you to those of you who have written to us with words of encouragement. It really matters to us. The staff are working really hard to provide a solid educational experience for your child. These messages help to make them feel their hard work is



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not being missed and inspires them to do more. As always if you also have any suggestions, please let us know.

Stay safe.

Yours Faithfully

Ms L Frame  
Principal