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2 April 2020

Ref: Kindness, love and hope

Dear Parents and Carers

Over the last two weeks, all within the BEST community have focused relentlessly on responding to the COVID-19 crisis. In extraordinary circumstances, our schools have delivered. On-site provision for the most vulnerable and children of key workers has been provided, with learning activities and curriculum materials being made available for those working from home.

History teaches us that in times of great stress the tenacity of the human spirit prevails. We have witnessed so many stories of kindness, love and hope. Lily and Mia making fake snow together, dance with Dad PE sessions and countless staff challenges; splits anyone? Our endeavours have attracted local and national radio and TV coverage. Science goggles have been donated to the Luton and Dunstable Hospital, food provided for Meppershall Care Home and rainbows designed for the new Nightingale Hospital in London.

Our schools will remain open over the next two weeks, Monday 6th April 2020 – Friday 17th April 2020 to continue to care for the most vulnerable and children of key workers. Please note: there will be limited provision on both Good Friday and Easter Monday. In all cases, individual schools will provide you with the exact details.

Staff have been asked to rest and enjoy some time with their families over the Easter period. They will not be asked to set class/homework or spend time online completing school work. This will help ensure we are able to continue to support you for as long as is needed.

This time does create an opportunity for families to work, learn and play together. However, we are aware that it also places stresses on families. We are tremendously grateful for the support you give us and are determined to support you as best we can; please do keep in touch. Robert Frost tells us that 'the best way out is always through'. Together, we will pull through this with kindness, hope and love.

With every best wish.

Yours sincerely

Dr Alan Lee
Chief Executive Officer
& National Leader of Education

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BEST Schools: Samuel Whitbread Academy, Etonbury Academy, Pix Brook Academy, Robert Bloomfield Academy, St Christophers Academy, Gothic Mede Academy, Langford Village Academy, Gravenhurst Academy, Lawnside Academy and BEST Nurseries.

Company Registration Number: 07546141 VAT Registration Number: 120 7845 28 BEST has exempt charitable status by virtue of being an academy trust.