



Dear Families and Carers,

I am writing with an update before the Easter break. I hope you are navigating your way through these uncertain times and are finding ways to make the current restrictions bearable. Thank you for the feedback you have provided to me over the last two weeks. It has been very useful to help us plan for a longer period of time when the pupils will not be at school and support you as best we can in ways that you find helpful. I need to emphasise that we are not remote learning experts and are on a steep learning curve ourselves with setting work in this way. The staff all have different home circumstances and are balancing this and supporting the pupils as best they can during the closure.

School Closure Update

We continue to be uncertain about the length of the school closure and we will continue to review the situation but for **now we are closed until further notice**.

From Monday 20th April we will resume the emergency school for pupils with an EHCP, those that meet the vulnerable definition set by the Government and for key worker pupils. There is provision for key worker pupils over Easter that is being run by a play centre and please contact enquiries@pimlicoacademy.org if you want to take advantage of this provision.

Free School Meal (FSM) Vouchers

We have decided to send out another £25 supermarket voucher over the Easter holidays as we know some of our families are struggling. The vouchers have been ordered but I am not sure when I will get them but as soon as they arrive I will post them out to you.

After Easter we move to the new Government scheme which means that any family who qualifies for FSM will get a £15 voucher each week which can be spent in one of six supermarkets. This will be sent to you electronically and based on the email we currently hold for you and there is a fact sheet attached which should help to answer your queries about how the scheme will operate after Easter. Please email enquiries@pimlicoacademy.org if you need to update the email address we hold for you. If you have recently found yourselves in circumstances where you find yourself qualifying for FSM you need to complete the application form from your Local Authority and send it back to your Local Authority as they process the claim not the school. The link for Westminster is below:

https://www.westminster.gov.uk/sites/default/files/free_school_meal_form_-_april_2018.pdf

The sooner you can do this the better. Please use the enquires email for any help you need or advice you need with this.

Remote Learning after Easter

As a mum of an eleven year old boy I too have found home schooling a challenge to begin with and there are days when I feel it has gone well and days I feel less positive. We can't recreate all that a pupil has in school and I urge us all to be realistic and do our best and encourage our children to do the same. I know from your feedback it is hard to juggle the need to access IT within your family and the motivation of the pupils can vary.

Pimlico Academy

Lupus Street,
London SW1V 3AT
020 7828 0881

enquiries@pimlicoacademy.org
www.pimlicoacademy.org

Future Academies is a charity regulated by the Department for Education, and is sponsored by Future, charity number 1114396.
Registered office: Lupus Street, London SW1V 3AT



To support we suggest the following:

1. Keep to the suggested timetable attached as a way of structuring your day.
2. Use of mix of on-line and printed resources. To this end we are sending home packs of Maths and English work to be used alongside the work on FROG from Monday 20th April.
3. We are now entering a holiday period of time so no work will be set but it will be back on FROG from Monday 20th April. It will be uploaded by the individual teachers of the classes so pupils can message their teacher back. The FROG site is going to be down from Wednesday 8th April – Thursday 9th April for maintenance work.
4. Many departments have been experimenting with an audio commentary to go with lessons so pupils can hear the explanations and you will see more of these as time goes on.
5. We are monitoring FROG usage and are calling pupils/parents when we see very little time has been spent logging on and also praising pupils when we see high levels of usage or a big increase.
6. Some of you have asked for more clarity about the amount of time pupils should spend on the work and we will factor this into work set after Easter as well as post things at more regular times.
7. Please continue to send us feedback as it really helps us plan for the next period of potential closure.

Easter Holiday Opportunities

I am being sent a wealth of information that young people may want to access over Easter.

City Lions Virtual Easter Holiday

Between 7 - 9 April join us on a virtual adventure where we roam the city via webinars and interactive Q&A sessions with Westminster's most exciting creatives! [Get a 'behind the scenes' peek at local industries and have fun with interactive creative workshops.](#)

This Easter you will have the opportunity to learn from leading creatives across fashion, theatre, music and dance. This includes a seminar on how to run your own fashion business, a song writing workshop and Q&A about careers in music as well as the opportunity to learn a dance from 9-5 The Musical with a cast member.

Sign up [here](#) now!

City Lions Creative Challenge

Starting from Monday 6 April for two weeks, City Lions will be running their Easter Challenge. [Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday we will be setting a creative challenge with a £10 amazon voucher up for grabs for each challenge.](#) Challenges will be sent out by email at 9:30am each morning and the deadline for submissions will be 4pm the following day. The winner will be contacted as the next challenge is set!

Sign up [here](#) now!

Email: citylions@westminster.gov.uk

Web: <https://citylions.org/>



Other online resources to explore:

Google Earth.

Tour world leading museums such as the Natural History, the Vatican, The Met, the V&A and the Uffizi museum on line from home.

Sign up to an online coding camp at cyphercoders.com

Join Gareth Malone's community choir, the Great British Home Chorus.

Health and Well Being Resources

We are very aware of the challenges for our mental well-being during the current time and these are some resources you may find useful.

<https://www.westminster.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-and-information>

MindUp™ website (<https://mindup.org.uk/mindup-activities/>): An activities page for families that has been created to help bring mindful, positive and happy moments into the home. Doing MindUP™ activities and practices together will support wellbeing and help encourage a calmer, happier and more optimistic home.

Education Support Anna Freud Centre website (<https://www.annafreud.org/coronavirus/>). Resources for children and young people, parents and carers, and staff in schools and colleges.

I really miss our school community and am very grateful to all the staff that have supported the work that has gone on already to support their classes. I hope you and your families stay safe and well. Please continue to check the website for updates and we appreciate your feedback so far.

Best Wishes

Ms Green

Principal