

## DIOCESAN EDUCATION TEAM CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Please note, text marked in **red type** will denote where updates have been made on the date of the document.

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## **Diocesan Education Team Updates / Requests**

### • **Contact**

- The Old Palace is currently closed and although members of the Education team are working remotely from home, we remain available at any time for advice, support or just a chat, if it would help.
- Before Easter Margaret James (DDE) and Tim Reid (Deputy Diocesan Director of Education) called every one of our 100 church schools to check in with how they are, how they are dealing with the current situation and changes to normal routine. Between them they have spoken with almost all schools, however, there are some they have not yet managed to speak to as of yet. As this might not be the best way to get in touch with our school colleagues given the changing nature of schools at this time, we will now direct the bulk of our communication through email.
- If you would like to speak to either Margaret, Tim, or another member of the team, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details below.
  - Office: 01905 732 821, or 01905 732 825  
[education@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:education@cofe-worcester.org.uk)
  - Margaret: 07500 559 783 and @MargaretRJ93
  - Tim: 0791 927 4194
  - Twitter: @CofEWorcEduTeam

- **SIAMS Inspections** are currently postponed in the UK. We will give you plenty of notice about the resumption of SIAMS inspections and we will do everything we can to ensure that you are in no way disadvantaged by the current disruption in terms of training, support and advice. Please get in touch with either Margaret, or Duncan Jones ([djones@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:djones@cofe-worcester.org.uk)) if you have any questions about this area of work.

### • **School closures and hub-working**

- We would be really grateful if you could please let us know if and when you make a decision to close your school and work in a hub with another local school, in addition to your plans for opening / closing over what would have been the school holidays.
- It would be really helpful if schools could alter their school answer machine message in light of the current situation, if this has not been completed already.

### • **Prayer**

- The Diocesan Education Team continue to pray all in our school communities every day between 12pm and 1pm. Please do let us have any specific prayer requests for you and / or your school.
- On Maundy Thursday (8<sup>th</sup> April 2020) we invite all schools across the Diocese to join us at 11am as we gather as a church school family to pray, to remember each other and the work of all those involved in education at this time of crisis in the world.

### • **Foundation Governor appointments / reappointments**

- The DBE will continue to consider applications for governor appointments and reappointments, but we ask that all paperwork is submitted electronically to [education@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:education@cofe-worcester.org.uk) for the foreseeable future. Paper applications may be lost or delayed in the time that the Diocesan Office at the Old Palace is closed.

- **School visits** by members of the Education Team are currently suspended. We will rearrange cancelled visits once life returns to normal.

### **Diocesan Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and other training**

- The new versions of our Training & Support SLA (TSSLA) and School Effectiveness Support SLA (SESSLA) for 2020 to 2021 have been circulated to all schools. From this point forward, each year the TSSLA and the SESSLA will now officially run between September and August, however, they will be circulated in March / April to help schools plan their budgets. These new SLAs will therefore take you up to August 2021.
  
- **All courses and training, either in school or at the Old Palace, are now cancelled until further notice.** This includes the RSHE training run by Herts for Learning that we had arranged to take place at the Old Palace on 23 and 24 April. We still have your bookings for these courses and we will be in touch with you once new dates have been agreed.
  
- **NEW Training & Support SLA (TSSLA)**  
[https://cofeworcester.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/Training\\_and\\_Support\\_SLA\\_2020-2021\\_Final.pdf](https://cofeworcester.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/Training_and_Support_SLA_2020-2021_Final.pdf)
  
- **NEW School Effectiveness Support SLA (SESSLA)**
  - Tim would like to confirm that outstanding hours / days which remain from the current SESSLA will be honoured before schools undertake the new SESSLA.
  - If your school accesses Headteacher Performance Appraisal through your SESSLA, please note that any setting of new targets will be completed through the new SLA for 2020/2021. Where mid-point appraisal meetings haven't been able to take place in the current academic year, we are happy to offer a half day of bespoke school effectiveness support in its stead.[https://cofeworcester.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/Final\\_School\\_Effectiveness\\_Support\\_SLA\\_2020-2021.pdf](https://cofeworcester.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/Final_School_Effectiveness_Support_SLA_2020-2021.pdf)

## **Leadership**

- **Admissions appeals**

The Church of England Education Office (CEEO) team is currently working with lawyers to establish regulations which will disapply certain requirements in the Admissions Code - like holding a panel in person. They will then draft guidance which will support admission authorities to hold panels by telephone, video or paper. This is proving to be a complicated and tricky piece of work but the team is working flat out with the aim of publishing around National Offer Day (16 April) or just after. In the meantime, the advice is to hold fire as under the current circumstances it would not be reasonable to hold admissions authorities to account under the current restrictions. We will forward any information that we receive as soon as we have it.

- **Recruitment**

Current advice from the DfE team responsible for recruitment is that schools will need to continue to assess their staffing needs and recruitment requirements and, when conducting recruitment activity, should have regard to the government's guidance on social distancing:

- The guidance is very clear that DfE are asking people to stay home, to protect the NHS and save lives.
- Whilst specific arrangements for teacher recruitment are a matter for schools, guidance on social distancing and school closures includes visitors to the school.
- As such, interviews should either happen online or be delayed to a later date, and DfE trusts schools to use their judgement in implementing this.
- DfE will work closely with the sector to understand the impact on recruitment and supply that this might have, and what support might be needed to mitigate this.
- The team is still considering what needs to happen re. statutory notice periods and will come back on this asap.

If you have any queries whilst awaiting further official advice, please contact Tim Reid ([treid@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:treid@cofe-worcester.org.uk)).

- **Bereavement**

As an Education Team and DBE, we are in the process of writing guidance for schools in cases of bereavement. Sadly, the reality of today's world suggests that this might be needed now more than ever. We will get it to you as soon as we are able to.

## **DfE Updates**

- A full list of the latest published information can be found [here](#). If you have any questions or concerns with any of the content of the guidance, please email them to: [EYSG-schools.COVID19@education.gov.uk](mailto:EYSG-schools.COVID19@education.gov.uk)
  - Coronavirus (COVID-19): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers>
  - Guidance for schools, colleges and local authorities on maintaining educational provision: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>.
  - Guidance for schools about temporarily closing (school closures Q&A): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures>
  - Guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement social distancing: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings>
  - Guidance on vulnerable children and young people (vulnerable children and young people Q&A): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people>.
  - Guidance for Ofsted-registered childcare providers about childcare provision and the recording of attendance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-attendance-recording-for-educational-settings>
  - School governance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-governance-update/school-governance-update-march-2020>.
  - Free School Meals: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools>.

*Please note: these updates clarify and update terminology used in the guidance and do not include substantive policy changes or additional Q&A. We will continue to flag further updates as they are made.*

## **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

- **Guidance:**

- Public Health England has published new advice to support mental health during the Coronavirus outbreak. PHE has also updated the Every Mind Matters platform with specific advice on maintaining good mental wellbeing during the outbreak.
  - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19#additional-advice-for-groups-with-specific-mental-health-needs>
  - <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips/>

- **Wellbeing support:**

The Chartered College is introducing a wellbeing text messaging service for teachers and feedback on the impact that it has had in the areas in which it was piloted appears to be positive. It involves receiving a weekly text message to support wellbeing; details and sign up are at [www.chartered.college/teachtogether](http://www.chartered.college/teachtogether).

- **Resources for Mental Health, Wellbeing and PSHE:**

- **Jigsaw PSHE:**

- Jigsaw are giving away Jigsaw Families stories and Calm Me time (relaxation and mindfulness practice) audios along with learning activities for free, at the moment, accessible on their website ([www.jigsawpshe.com](http://www.jigsawpshe.com)).
- They are also giving away the Jigsaw song 'Together as One' along with suggested learning activities, then inviting people to upload themselves singing the song. At 3pm on 14<sup>th</sup> April the collage of videos will go LIVE so children (and grown-ups) can watch to see whether they can spot themselves.  
<https://www.jigsawpshe.com/jigsaw-big-sing/>

- **Liverpool CAMHS:** <https://wakelet.com/wake/564d7bc8-4bc9-462f-a9e1-2deb03150c3f>

## **Resources for Collective Worship (CW) and School Clubs**

- CofE education encourages collective worship that is 'inclusive, invitational and inclusive'. Please see the list below of resources, identified by the CEE0, that you in school and families at home with their children may find useful at this time.
  - **Katie Hartle** a member of the **Tardebidge CE First School** team in our very own family of church schools has uploaded an Easter Assembly to YouTube.  
<https://youtu.be/6CbIuNHU6Rw>
  - **Imaginer's Journey into Easter with Children:** Shahne Vickery (Imaginer) has developed a free resource for children and families to use together as they explore the amazing events of Holy Week and Easter Day. Resources are available on the following link:  
[https://www.imaginer.co.uk/journey\\_to\\_easter/](https://www.imaginer.co.uk/journey_to_easter/)
  - **The Boys' Brigade** have launched a new programme to enable them to continue to reach out and engage children and young people with a fun and exciting programme of activities, with opportunities to learn, grow and discover in their own homes supported by parents / carers.  
<https://boys-brigade.org.uk/bbathome/>
  - **The Girls' Brigade** have launched free, weekly, online resources / activities, GB@Home, for different age groups of girls and young women to have a go at.  
<https://www.girlsbrigademinstries.org.uk/post/gbhome-launches/>
  - **The Church of England** have published great prayer resources for all, including for children and young people, on their website. Take a look on the following link:  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>.
  - **Diddy Disciples:** If you have young children, you can join Diddy Disciples for Bedtime Prayers at 6.45pm on their Facebook page. Words here:  
[https://c46300a4-2f1d-45b8-abca-22a8546ab143.usrfiles.com/ugd/92d490\\_2fc3fa7458f245ea86a95fe26d017d3e.pdf](https://c46300a4-2f1d-45b8-abca-22a8546ab143.usrfiles.com/ugd/92d490_2fc3fa7458f245ea86a95fe26d017d3e.pdf)
  - **Diocese of Blackburn:** A new video resource, 'Off the Shelf', is designed to be used as CW in schools and at home with themes specifically relevant at this time. There are also picture posts and an RE resource in the making which will be available soon. Each resource asks big questions and challenges the viewer to reflect and make a response.  
[www.bdeducation.org.uk](http://www.bdeducation.org.uk)
  - **Diocese of Canterbury, William and Lucy resource:** This helps children at home to take ownership of setting up and leading CW. There is an adapted version of the book that guides children through the elements of worship and then a book of Bible stories. Just to be warned, these are large downloads.  
<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/childrenandyoungpeople/our-schools/collective-worship/collective-worship-at-home.php>



- **Diocese of Guildford:** Resources which can be used both at home and in school.  
<https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/education/christian-distinctiveness/collective-worship/covid-19-resources>
- **Diocese of Salisbury:** Guidance for school parish worship.  
<https://www.salisbury.anglican.org/resources-library/schools/critical-incident/sdbe-school-parish-worship-guidance-march-2020/view?searchterm=school%20parish%20worship>
- **Diocese of St Alban's:**
  - **Journeying with Jacob** materials offer a five-week suite of worship resources for Primary and Secondary-aged pupils, at home and in school. The resources are formed of Vlogs, questions for discussion / think pieces and creative prayer activities.  
<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/schools/worship-for-home/>  
<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/worship-for-school/>
  - **Worship at Home:** A weekly resource including creative activities, reflections and prayers which can be used at home or in school.  
<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/schools/worship-for-home/>
- **Engage** at home: daily prayer and worship activities for families.  
<https://engageworship.org/engage-at-home-daily-family-prayer-and-worship-activities>
- **Fischy Music** are leading online musical / RE assemblies. Join them at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/fischymusic>
- **Gill Vaisey** is offering Easter games and activities from PLAN+3, free to all teachers, parents and carers. Including interactive PowerPoint game, board game and Easter dominoes.  
Contact [orders@booksatpress.co.uk](mailto:orders@booksatpress.co.uk), or visit their website [www.booksatpress.co.uk](http://www.booksatpress.co.uk) to receive these resources.
- **Guardians of Ancora, Scripture Union:** This is a free game app (downloadable from AppStore, Google Play or Amazon AppStore), giving children and families the opportunity to 'enter into' Bible stories, then explore and adventure in the digital world. The CEEQ would not suggest this as an RE resource, but suggest that it's okay for school clubs and maintaining a link whilst self-isolating. The Guardians of Ancora Facebook page will post a daily idea for families and individuals.  
[www.guardiansofancora.com](http://www.guardiansofancora.com)
- **iSingPop** have made their songs available on their YouTube channel. These are great for engaging children at home or school. iSingPop are also planning some work to support home worship that should be coming soon, so watch this space!  
<https://www.isingpop.org/>
- **Prayer spaces in schools** have created and are adapting some prayer activities for families to use at home, or teachers to use in schools with their reduced numbers. Please note, you will need to create a log-in to access these resources.  
<https://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/resources/177>

- **RE Today** colleagues have created a very simple 'do it at home' activity for parents and children for Easter and a Powerpoint presentation about how to make an Easter Garden.

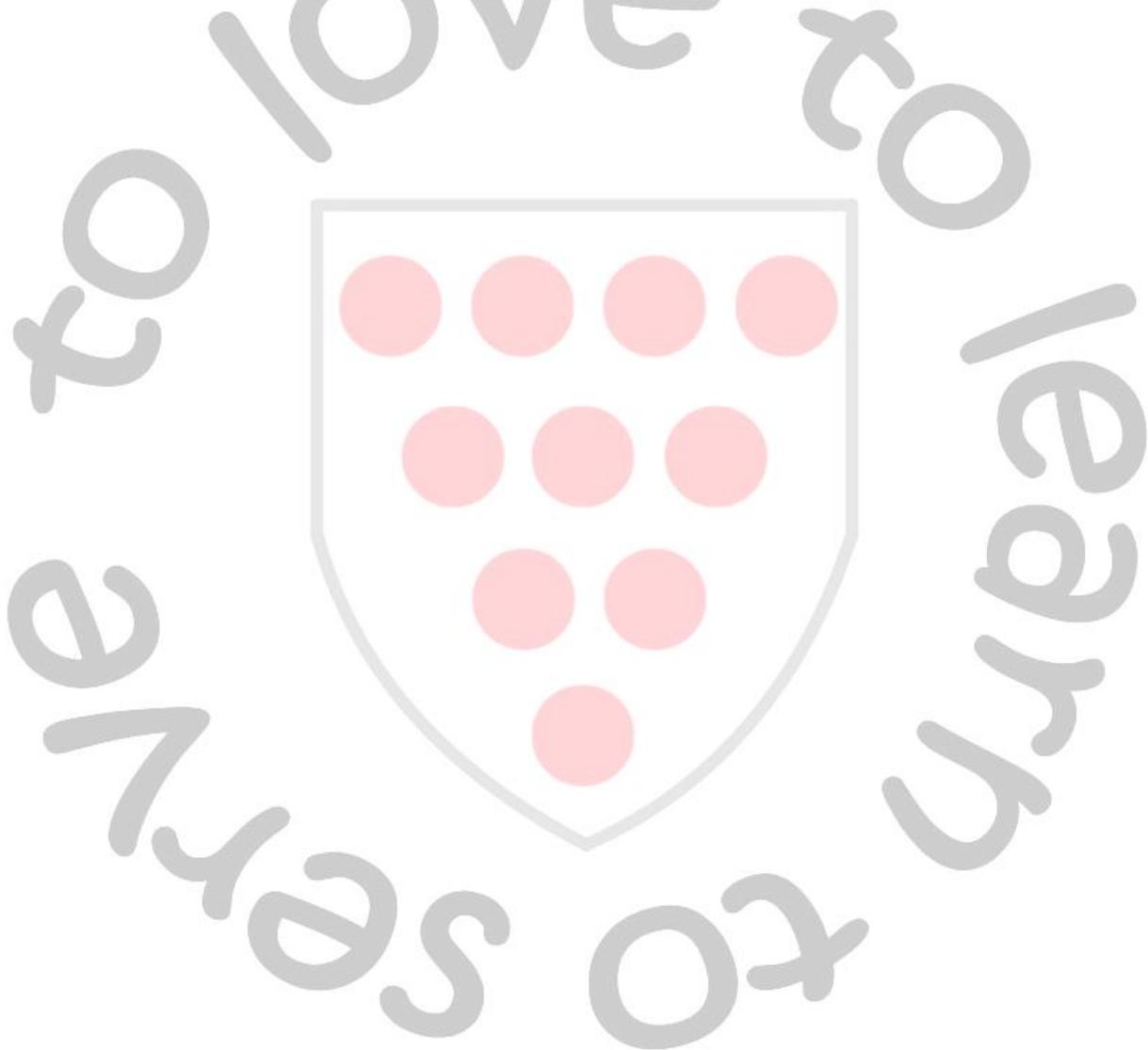


Easter Activities    Easter Garden How  
Simple Lat B RE Tod:to Make Lat B RE To

- **Rend Co Kids** songs that are suitable for collective worship:  
<https://www.worshiptogether.com/worship-leaders/rend-co-kids/>
- **Rhema Theatre Group:** Free film/drama clips for Holy week & Easter:  
<https://talesfromthemiraclebook.co.uk/>
- **Winston's Wish:** Guidance from Winston's Wish about talking to children about deaths due to Coronavirus.  
<https://www.winstonswish.org/telling-a-child-someone-died-from-coronavirus/>
- **Worship at home:** A You Tube channel for family and school worship - a 15 min slot at 9.30 after Joe Wick's workout slot, PE with Joe:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf5XYzcToACINGxA0oIKrPw/videos>

### **Resources for Religious Education (RE)**

- **Barnabas in Schools** are producing an expanding range of resources to support RE in the home. These are shared on their website and FaceBook page.
  - <https://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/topics/re-home>
  - [https://www.facebook.com/Barnabas-in-Schools-714825645540620/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/Barnabas-in-Schools-714825645540620/?modal=admin_todo_tour)
- **NATRE / RE Today** have created 24 free, home-learn materials and further items for NATRE members. This includes resources for Holy Week and Easter.
  - [http://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/free-resources-for-you-and-your-pupils/?utm\\_source=emailmarketing&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=free\\_home\\_learning\\_resources\\_for\\_you\\_and\\_your\\_pupils&utm\\_content=2020-03-20](http://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/free-resources-for-you-and-your-pupils/?utm_source=emailmarketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=free_home_learning_resources_for_you_and_your_pupils&utm_content=2020-03-20)



**Resources for Teaching & Learning**

- Free subscription until July 2020: <https://digimapforschools.edina.ac.uk/>
- Free for the duration of school closures: <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>
- High quality maths activities: <https://nrich.maths.org/>

