

Monday 27 April 2020

COVID-19: LDBE Senior Leaders Update.

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you have all managed to get some rest during the Easter break. I want to thank you for all the amazing work you are doing for our schools during these challenging times. I am grateful for the creative ways in which you have managed to engage students with their on-line learning whilst they are at home, as well as your selfless commitment to provide education and care for the children of key workers.

I need to update you all on a number of matters. We have been receiving some queries regarding the future of SIAMS Inspections. We have been informed that the DfE have lifted the requirements on Church of England schools and academies to conduct a section 48 inspection. The restart date is dependent on the DfE and is therefore out of our control. We know that schools and academies will require a period of transition as students return to school and therefore is unlikely that the inspection schedule will begin immediately. I will keep you informed of any updates I receive.

The Christian Distinctiveness Advisers (CDA's) are continuing to support schools during lockdown. However three CDA's are now on furlough. If you wish to request virtual visits then please contact Paula Lloyd who will arrange this for you.

The CDA Team have been putting together some resources to support schools during lockdown. We continue to develop home learning resources for Religious Education, including some creative fun challenges for students. We have also developed a guidance and support resource for bereavement, loss and change. A new resource which focuses on mental health and well-being for students and staff will go live on our website next week. Please keep checking the website for regular updates. www.ldbe.co.uk
We would also like to encourage schools and communities to share any good news stories during lockdown which we will celebrate on our 'Rainbow News Page'. Please send any stories or photographs to Alex Wolvers.

Below are the contact details of the team who are currently working. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require support. Can I please remind you that any request for a CDA virtual visit should be emailed to Paula Lloyd.



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Thank you again for all that you are doing for our schools and their communities. We hold you all in our prayers.

*God will put his angels in charge of you
to protect you wherever you go.
They will hold you up with their hands
to keep you from hurting your feet on the stones.
Psalm 91*

Blessings,



Claire Shaw
Diocesan Director of Education



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