



Hartsdown
Academy

1 April 2020
Update

Dear parents/carers,

I know that this is an exceptionally challenging time for our community and I am really grateful for your understanding as we all adapt to this new reality. I want to take this opportunity to update you.

New School Buildings

Although this has been impacted, we expect to be able to move into the new building when the social distancing is lifted. At the moment we are awaiting furniture and ICT so it may not be the smooth process we hoped for!

School Work

We have put work on the google drive via the school website and I am really impressed with the hard work that many of our students are putting in. We have made this as simple as possible and students don't need a password to access the work. They will need a password to submit work and this should be done via email. I will put together a couple of videos to help everyone understand this process. If you have any issues please contact me via tatem@hartsdown.org or the school facebook page and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

At the moment we are not expecting to use interactive video lessons as this brings safeguarding and technical challenges. This may change in due course.

Free School Meals

Unbelievably the government has completely changed the system for FSM. I hope that it will be better than the old (but am not holding my breath). This new system requires that you **MUST** have an email address. If you haven't provided us with one please register an email account and send us the details. info@hartsdown.org (Please include your child's full name and DOB and your current phone number.) Please do this by 15 April.

If your situation has changed you may be entitled to Free school meals. Please use this form and we will check for you.

Vouchers

FSM vouchers are due for term time only and the vouchers we have issued cover until the 19 April. We will be issuing vouchers worth £15 on the 17 April to cover the following week. You will receive a code which you will put into the website www.freeschoolmeals.co.uk You can then choose your supermarket and you will receive an e-gift card by email.

I hope that you are all well and keeping safe.,

Best wishes

Matthew Tate
Headteacher