

## **Kingsbury Green Academy SEND Special arrangements in relation to COVID19**

Following the closure of schools from the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 Government guidelines stated:

*Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with education, health and care (EHC) plans.*

*Those with an EHC plan should be risk-assessed by their school in consultation with the local authority (LA) and parents, to decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school or college place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide any essential services. Many children and young people with EHCP plans can safely remain at home.*

In order to ensure that our pupils with EHC plans are supported we have consulted families with regards to whether or not their child needs to attend school. We have ensured that the expectations for work being done at home is understood and that pupils can access the work being set by school staff. As a school we are undertaking weekly and fortnightly check-ins to ensure that pupils' outcomes are kept at the forefront and their emotional needs are being met. Work set by class teachers takes in to account the needs of the pupils in the classes and is open-ended in nature to allow pupils to engage with and further their own learning. If SEND support pupils need access to specialist equipment such as coloured overlays we will endeavour to provide these. Parents are encouraged to contact school if they do not have access to equipment such as this. Where possible, all EHCP annual reviews will continue to take place via telephone and in consultation with parents.

Parents of SEND pupils may require support at this time and the academy email system and the Show My Homework App is in place to allow for conversation to be held between staff and parents. The SENCO can be reached at: [ejohnson@kingsburygreenacademy.com](mailto:ejohnson@kingsburygreenacademy.com)

We are aware that the transition period for our pupils with SEND has been greatly affected by the current situation and we continue to work alongside our feeder primary schools and trust schools to ensure that the information needed is shared. As the summer term progresses we will begin to send out transition style material that will endeavour to support all new intake pupils at this time.

Further resources that support our pupils' emotional and social development during this unprecedented time have been attached in this section. This will continue to be updated as time passes.

External agencies will only become involved if necessary following the usual graduated response process detailed in the SEND policy.

## **Resources to support Social, Emotional and Mental Health**

<https://youngminds.org.uk/> Young Minds UK: Offers advice, information and blogs on promoting good mental health during times of isolation and lockdown:

<https://bit.ly/2wxCAMO> SecEd author Dr Pooky Knightsmith offers support for mental health and wellbeing via her YouTube channel, including a recent post on ways to guard good mental health in light of the coronavirus outbreak

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ME5IZn4-BAk&feature=youtu.be>  
Video from the Anna Freud Centre on how pupils can find support during this time of school closures and disruption.

<https://www.bps.org.uk/news-and-blogs>

**Key stages:** key stage 3 to key stage 5

**Description:** advice on dealing with school closures and talking to children about COVID-19.

**Registration:** not required

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/coronavirus-information-and-support>

**Key stages:** key stage 3 to key stage 5

**Description:** information and support on different aspects of mental health and wellbeing.

**Registration:** not required

<https://riseabove.org.uk/topic/my-mind/>

**Key stages:** key stage 3 to key stage 5

**Description:** videos with tips on gaining confidence, dealing with anxiety and coping strategies from other young people.

**Registration:** not required

[www.complexneeds.org.uk](http://www.complexneeds.org.uk) - emotional wellbeing and mental health

[www.cerebra.org.uk](http://www.cerebra.org.uk) - for children with anxiety