



**Principal:** Dr Katharine Vincent

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As week two of the school closure period draws to a close, I hope that you are remaining fit and healthy as far as possible. I am grateful for all of the support and encouragement that you have given to the school over the last few weeks. I am writing to update you about the situation as we head into the Easter Holiday period, during which time the school will be closed.

### Free School Meal Vouchers

Mulberry UTC will be making Free School Meal vouchers available to parents/carers of eligible students from Monday 20th April 2020 onwards. This will involve all eligible families receiving a weekly voucher worth £15, which can be used at a number of different supermarkets.

Parents/carers of eligible students will receive an email within the next two weeks giving them details about how to obtain these vouchers. If you believe you are eligible and do not receive this, or if you have any queries, please contact us by email: [info@mulberryutc.org](mailto:info@mulberryutc.org). **Please note that you will not be able to telephone the school during this time, as the building will be closed.**

Please also refer to the guidance on Free School Meals which can be found through these links:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools>
- [https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE\\_FreeSchoolMeals\\_ParentCarer](https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarer)

### Year 11 and 13 students.

We have now received details from the Department for Education and Ofqual in relation to the process that will be used to allocate grades to students who were working towards qualifications in GCSE, A-level and technical/vocational subjects this year. The process will involve the school working with the exam boards to determine the most appropriate grades for students, based on our knowledge about the grades they would have been most likely to achieve if they had taken their exams. Results will then be moderated by exam boards and released to students in July, with an opportunity for them to retake exams in the autumn term if they wish to do so.

I will contact you again after the Easter holidays with more information about the way in which the school will manage this process. Thank you for your patience in relation to this issue – I know that it is an anxious time for students and parents who were supposed to take exams in the summer term.



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### Children of key workers and site opening

While Mulberry UTC is closed, Mulberry School for Girls remains open for the children of key workers and those in certain vulnerable groups. Any students who wish to collect a packed lunch during the Easter holidays can continue to do so from Mulberry School for Girls; care packages are also available from Mulberry School for Girls for those students and families who need them. For more information about this, please refer to my previous communication on the website and also to the Trust newsletter, which has been put onto the website today and which you have received a text message about.

### Communication with teachers and other staff

Students have been working extremely well during the closure period and I continue to be impressed with the progress they are making with their learning during this time. In most subject areas, teachers have set work for students to complete during the Easter holidays in the way they normally would. Please continue to encourage students to complete this work, and to ensure they are completing work for all of their subjects and not just their favourite ones!

Please bear in mind that teachers will not be working over the Easter holidays. It has been an extremely busy for our teaching staff, who have responded brilliantly to the situation. They need now to have a break from their work and therefore students should not expect them to respond to emails during this time.

### Online safety

Our new way of learning obviously means that students are now spending far greater amounts of time on line than ever before. With that in mind, we would encourage you to please continue to closely monitor students' use of the internet and to use the guidance available online about how to set up parental controls on your computer and other devices:

- <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

If you have any concerns about your child's safety online during this period of closure, please contact the relevant Director of Progress or the safeguarding team in the way that you would with any other safeguarding concern.



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## Wellbeing

We have written to all students today giving them advice about how to stay safe and healthy during the school closure period. The link below from the World Health Organisation also contains some useful information about healthy parenting in these unusual times:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/healthy-parenting>

## Other resources

In order to keep students entertained and stimulated, there are now numerous websites offering educational content that is currently free to use. The list included overleaf gives you a flavour of these, in addition to those mentioned in my previous letters. You may wish to use some of these during the Easter holidays.

I know that this is a challenging time for many of our students and their families. Please be assured that we will continue to do everything we can to support every member of our school community to the best of our ability and in any way we can during this time and beyond. Thank you once again for all of your continued support of the school.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent  
Principal



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## Further online resources

### Museums

- Anne Franke Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands - <https://www.annefrank.org/en/museum/web-and-digital/>
- British Museum, London - <https://britishmuseum.withgoogle.com/>
- Guggenheim, Bilbao, Spain - <https://www.guggenheim-bilbao.eus/en>
- Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg, Russia - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49YeFsx1rlw&feature=youtu.be>
- Louvre Museum Paris - <https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne>
- MASP, Sao Paulo, Brazil - <https://masp.org.br/en>
- Metropolitan Museum, New York - <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/online-features/met-360-project>
- Musée d'Orsay, Paris - <https://m.musee-orsay.fr/en/home.html>
- Musei Vaticani, Vatican City - <http://www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/collezioni/musei/tour-virtuali-elenco.html>
- Museum Of London Docklands - <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/about-us/business-services/venue-hire/museum-london-docklands/virtual-tour>
- National Gallery Of Arts, Washington DC - <https://www.nga.gov/>
- National Gallery, London - <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours>
- National Museum Of US Air Forces - <https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/>
- Natural History Museum, London - <https://artsandculture.google.com/streetview/the-natural-history-museum-hintze-hall/yQHjHCmSOMKyhQ>
- Palestine Museum - <https://www.palmuseum.org/ehxhibitions/virtual-exhibitions>
- Picasso Museum, Barcelona - <http://www.bcn.cat/museupicasso/en/museum/presentation.html>
- Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, Netherlands - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/rijksmuseum>
- Royal Academy Of Arts, London - <https://britishart.vale.edu/>
- Salvatore Dali Museum, Figueres, Spain - <https://www.salvador-dali.org/en/museums/dali-theatre-museum-in-figueres/visita-virtual/#>
- Tate Britain, London - <https://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-britain/display/walk-through-british-art>
- The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, United States - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-j-paul-getty-museum>



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- The Museum of Flight - <https://museumofflight.org/Explore-The-Museum/Virtual-Museum-Online>
- The National Museum of Computing on Bletchley Park - <https://britishart.yale.edu/> • Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/uffizi-gallery>
- US Holocaust Museum - <https://www.ushmm.org/information/exhibitions/online-exhibitions>
- Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/van-gogh-museum>
- Virginia Living Museum - <https://thevlm.org/visit/about-us/covid-19-update/natural-education/>
- Women's History Museum, Virginia, USA - <https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/online-exhibits>
- Yale Centre For British Art - <https://britishart.yale.edu/>

### Tourist Destinations

- Buckingham Palace, London - <https://www.royal.uk/virtual-tours-buckingham-palace>
- Colosseum, Rome - <https://tinyurl.com/thrprzf>
- Machu Picchu - <https://www.youvisit.com/tour/machupicchu?pl=f>
- Northern Lights - <https://explore.org/livecams/aurora-borealis-northern-lights/northern-lights-cam>
- Pyramids - <https://www.tripsavvy.com/virtual-field-trip-pyramids-1259200>
- Stonehenge - <https://tinyurl.com/wz3xgz7>
- Street Art with Google - <https://streetart.withgoogle.com/en/>
- Taj Mahal, Agra, India - <https://tinyurl.com/qpz7vmt>
- The Great Wall Of China - <https://www.thechinaguide.com/destination/great-wall-of-china>
- Tour of Rome, Italy - <https://tinyurl.com/s5vlzbc>

### General Sites

- AirPano - <https://www.airpano.com/>
- Berliner Philharmoniker - <https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/home>
- ExoPlanets NASA - <https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/>
- Legoland - <https://www.legoland.dk/en/accommodation/hotel-legoland/virtual-tour/>
- NASA, Langley Research Centre - <https://oh.larc.nasa.gov/oh/>
- The Kennedy Centre - <https://www.kennedy-center.org/digitalstage/>
- Walt Disney Parks - <https://tinyurl.com/v7qano5>
- Wellcome Collection - <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=rMGsprcVCAR>



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## Zoos

- African Animals - <https://explore.org/livecams/african-wildlife/african-animal-lookout-camera>
- Atlanta Zoo - <https://zooatlanta.org/panda-cam/>
- Cincinnati Zoo - <https://www.facebook.com/events/2915534028492292/>
- Dublin Zoo - <https://www.dublinzoo.ie/animals/animal-webcams/elephants/>
- Edinburgh Zoo - <https://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk/webcams/panda-cam/>
- Explore.org Live Cams - <https://explore.org/livecams>
- Flamingo Land - <https://www.flamingoland.co.uk/virtual-tour/>
- Florida Aquarium - <http://www.flaquarium.org/sea-span>
- Hirakawa Zoo, Japan - <https://hirakawazoo.jp/animal/movie>
- International Wolf Centre - <https://wolf.org/wolf-cams2/>
- Kansas City Zoo - <https://www.kansascityzoo.org/ouranimals/list-of-animals/king-penguin/>
- Melbourne Zoo - <https://www.zoo.org.au/animal-house>
- National Aquarium, USA - <https://www.aqua.org/Experience/live>
- National Zoo, Washington DC - <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams>
- Osaka Zoo - <http://www.wombat-tv.com/>
- San Diego, California, Zoo - <https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams>
- Smithsonian, Washington DC - <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams>
- Yellowstone National Park - <https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtours.htm>