

Annex to SEND Information Report
COVID-19 changes to our SEND Information Report

April 2020 – updated June 2020

Response to COVID-19:

There have been significant changes within Ecclesbourne School in light of the coronavirus outbreak. Many young people are now at home and staffing within school is being limited in order to minimise risk. The situation is likely to be significantly affected through illness and self-isolation.

This annex sets out some of the adjustments we are making in line with the changed arrangements in the school and following [advice from government](#), the Local Authority and supporting agencies.

The current school position and local advice:

Ecclesbourne School closed its doors to most of our staff and students for the foreseeable future. From 23rd March, only students who fall into one of the eligible categories should be in school: children who are vulnerable, and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with [Education, Health and Care \(EHC\) plans](#).

Since June 15th, the school has, under government guidelines, extended its provision for some face to face time with year 10 and year 12 students.

Reporting arrangements:

The school arrangements continue to be in line with our SEND Policy and SEND Information Report.

Who are the best people to talk to about my child's difficulties with learning/SEND during lockdown?

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCo) – Cathy James: cjames1@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk / 07725 218877
- Deputy Head of Lower School & Deputy Safeguard Lead – Petra Owen Moore: powen@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk / 07703 188894
- Deputy Head of Upper School & Safeguarding Lead – Clarissa Ourabi: courabi@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk / 07703 188892
- Assistant Head of Sixth Form & Deputy Safeguard Lead – Simon Carnwell: scarnwell@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk / 07886 007739
- Deputy Head of Learning services – Rob Nicoll: ronicoll@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk / 07736 273259

What to do if your child is due an Annual Review:

Where an Annual Review is due we will make contact to arrange a mutually convenient time to hold the meeting over the phone. You will receive supporting documentation and guidance via email and there will still be the opportunity for parent and student views to be shared. Prior to the meeting, the SENDCo will collate information from appropriate staff and agencies relating towards the outcomes of the EHCP. Any professionals that would normally be invited will also be contacted and all information will be collated onto the Annual Review form and sent back to the Local Authority with recommendations for the plan to remain or with amendments to be made. A copy will also be sent to parents and carers.

Support for pupils with SEND:

Where there are professionals such as School Health, Social Care, Local Authority Support Services or any other services that are involved in meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND they will be contacted and we encourage that the service remains in place, albeit that would not be a face to face service. Most of the services are working remotely and have published advice which will have been emailed out to appropriate parents and carers already. Further advice from some of these services can be found under 'Useful Support websites'.

Improving Emotional Support:

During the lockdown the SENDCo, Keyworkers and/or Pastoral Leads will regularly contact parents and carers whose children fall under the vulnerable categories, via phone and email. Included in this will be all Ecclesbourne EHCP students and those SEND students who we also deem vulnerable. These key staff are aiming to speak with the young person as well as the parent, giving opportunity to communicate any needs or support required. These staff are trained in dealing with Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs and will make assessments and interpretation of changes in behaviour or attitudes which may be affecting mental health. Where necessary they would be signposted to the relevant staff in school or services to support with the need.

Useful support websites:

A handwashing song: <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/kids/life-skills/self-care/going-to-the-toilet/hand-washing/>

Online safety for children and messages for parents: www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhLWwQ4Ay5s

Coping with Stress (produced by the World Health Organisation):

https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/coping-with-stress.pdf?sfvrsn=9845bc3a_2

What to do if you are anxious about Coronavirus (Produced by Young Minds): <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/conditions/anxiety/>

Spending long periods of time at home with Young People with Learning Disabilities (Produced by CAMHs): <https://www.camhsnorthderbyshire.nhs.uk/selfisolating-for-learning-disabled-young-people>

Online anonymous Mental Health support for young people aged 11-25: <https://www.kooth.com/> and free online support for parents: <https://www.qwell.io/>

Support for managing suicidal feelings and serious self-harm in young people (produced by CAMHs): <https://www.camhsnorthderbyshire.nhs.uk/self-harm>

Support with young people with Autism e.g. sensory activities, exercise plans, daily routines and anxiety management (Produced by The National Autistic Society): <https://www.autism.org.uk/services/helplines/coronavirus/resources/helpful-resources.aspx>

Support with the home-schooling of Autistic students during lockdown (Produced by Autism Outreach Services for Derbyshire): <https://localoffer.derbyshire.gov.uk/#!/model/page/information/32497>

Support with home learning during covid-19:

In addition to the regular contact home mentioned earlier, each student will be receiving work on line through Show My Homework from teaching staff. For those students who have the support of a Learning Support Officer (LSO) in lessons, the students should also be having additional help and guidance provided by the LSO.

If there are any issues with the work, please pass these concerns on to the core support team or to your child's Keyworker, if appropriate. Equally if you want to pass on information to teachers please do so at that time. Should it be necessary, it can be arranged that a subject specialist or your child's teacher can make contact, if

appropriate. Staff are aiming to be creative in their approaches to education and appreciate that learning at home is different to being at school and that adaptations have to be made.

What support is available outside school?

Services paid for by the Local Authority:

- Occupational Health
- SEND Information Advice Support Service (DIASS).
- Support services for Hearing, Physical and Visually impairment
- Social Care
- School Nurse
- Physiotherapy
- Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)

There are voluntary organisations also able to offer support/guidance and for further details we recommend that you consult your Local Authority Local Offer which is in place to provide information and advice on services for 0-25 year olds with SEND. Depending where your address falls, these are available at:

- Derbyshire Local Offer: <https://localoffer.derbyshire.gov.uk/#!/directory> or 01629 533190
- Derby City Local Offer: www.derby.gov.uk/send/localoffer or 01332 640758

Please feel free to contact school if you have any problems during this difficult time and we will continue to work in partnership with yourselves in achieving the best possible outcomes for our SEND students.