



# Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

29 June 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

**Partial Reopening** – week 2 was again smooth, with almost all boys present. The number of key worker/vulnerable boys now seems to have stabilised at just shy of 20. Social distancing is the most difficult problem to crack, as it is so easy for anyone to forget... whatever age they happen to be!

**Remote Learning** – all teachers should have migrated their teaching, task setting, assessment and feedback across from Insight to MS Teams by the end of this week. Your son has been sent full instructions about how to use the system and also some basic ground rules to follow to make lessons run smoothly, and without unnecessary interruption or diversion. Your son's 'live' lessons will coincide with lessons on his timetable for the 2019-2020 academic year but of course not every lesson will be live, and also bear in mind that a number of staff will be teaching Year 10 and/or Year 12 face to face during the weeks between now and the end of the summer term. Please do remind your son of the importance of being present for the lessons – we are finding that most boys are engaging well and showing up when they are supposed to, but inevitably there is a minority that are less than reliable. For obvious reasons it is then more difficult for us to chase these miscreants up when they are not with us... if you have any questions about this aspect then please do contact your son's form tutor without delay. At the other end of the spectrum awards for good work are still being posted in large numbers on Insight, so do check whether he's done some good work that has been recognised as such by his teacher, Sadly no chocolate at the moment, but the House Competition is still forging ahead regardless...

**Latest guidance** – is being posted on the coronavirus webpage at:

<https://www.bishopwordsworths.org.uk/main-school/home/coronavirus-information/>.

This week is likely to be an important one, as we have been promised further guidance from DfE about social distancing for schools come September.

**Work on site** – the Back Yard has now been marked out for basketball; new posts/hoops will be installed shortly, and further table tennis tables will be added too.

**Webinars** – after a trial run on Friday the first sixth form recruitment webinar will take place on Tuesday. There has also been a team of senior prefects filming footage round the site for online presentations for Year 7 and Year 12. Links should be available via the website in due course. I am also starting to think about September and Speech Day in this respect – either a small event in the Cathedral with live streaming for the remainder of the school community or a wholly online experience. Either is eminently do-able; the prospect of a full scale event in the Cathedral seems unlikely.

**Twitter** – please keep an eye on the @BWordsworths feed for interesting links and information, including the Chaplain's weekly address and also (this week) for a link to the Chalke Valley History Festival offering. Another fantastic event that cannot happen in the flesh, but the online showing should be worthwhile I would guess.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S D Smallwood'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a stylized 'D'.

S D Smallwood  
**Head Master**