



The Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust

Learning Communities, Inspired by Faith

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Re: School Closure Update

Dear Colleagues

I hope that this finds you and your family healthy and well. I wanted to write to you prior to the end of term, to thank you on behalf of the BKCAT Trust Board for your outstanding response during the current COVID-19 crisis.

During the past couple of weeks, we have been faced with challenges as professionals that we have never faced before, and there is no doubt that in the weeks to come we will continue to be tested. I have heard about lots of wonderful examples of how staff in our schools are going the extra mile to ensure that they meet the needs of our children and families, and for this I want to thank you all.

In normal circumstances most of our schools would have broken up for the Easter holiday by now. However, because we are keen to support the fightback against COVID-19, to support parents and carers who are in the NHS or other areas of critical work and our vulnerable children, we will be continuing to keep our schools open (using a rationalised timetable) through the Easter break, including Good Friday and Bank Holiday Monday.

We know that for many households going into the third week of lockdown, this will bring additional stresses and strains caused by being together for longer than normal, by worries about money and by anxiety about health. Many of you are involved in a program of calls, check-ins and visits with pupils and families to support them through this difficult period.

As we travel through Holy Week, the most important time in the calendar of the Catholic Church, we do so with continued uncertainty and worry. We also go into this time knowing that in recent weeks we have seen the very best of people - in our families, certainly in our schools and without doubt in the countless acts of selflessness, kindness and care that have taken place across our public services.

Once again, I offer my thanks to you all for your support, your patience, your encouragement of each other and for helping to make the BKCAT community stronger at this time. Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those most affected by illness, especially COVID-19 and especially those in our community, the vulnerable, the poor and the elderly.

My very best wishes to you for a happy and Holy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

h. Fitton

Lesley Fitton
CEO

