



# Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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20th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Whilst the school is closed, our duty and responsibility to safeguarding our pupils remains. Our regular check-ins with families needing a bit of extra help and support will continue throughout the period of school closure, just as if the school was open. Please do not feel offended if a member of school staff calls to check in with you, and to speak to your daughter. If you have any safeguarding concerns whilst the school is closed, for your daughter or for any other pupil from the school, please contact any member of our Safeguarding Team:

Mr Dudley (Designated Safeguarding Lead/DSL) - [adudley@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:adudley@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

Mrs Jackson (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/DDSL) - [mjackson@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:mjackson@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

Mrs Dayton (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/DDSL) - [mdayton@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:mdayton@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

Mrs Allott (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/DDSL) - [sallott@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sallott@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

Mr Wood (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/DDSL) - [awood@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:awood@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

We understand that this may be a difficult and stressful time for some of our families. At Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School, we take our responsibility to safeguard and support vulnerable families very seriously, and we do not want the help and care that we currently offer to you and your daughter to stop.

We will also continue to work with other colleagues supporting you outside school. If you have any concerns about any meetings that you are required to attend please contact the relevant professional.

Our Heads of Year will maintain contact with their year groups via a year group Google Classroom. They will offer advice and guidance and will enable girls to maintain a sense of community. There will be a facility for girls to message their Head of Year without other members of the classroom / year group seeing the content of their messages.

Please check that your daughter has joined the group on the Google Classroom homepage. If she has not been invited please use the code for her year group from the table below to join the year group classroom.

Heads of Year will have an emergency contact number that girls or parents/carers can call during usual school hours (Monday - Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm):

**"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016**



Year group(s)	Head of Year / Sixth Form	Google classroom joining code	Emergency contact number	Days in school
7	Miss Parkin	bkrxhbx	07716 722976	N/A
8	Mrs Allott	6gnukci	07843 108152	Monday, Friday
9	Miss Lawrence	vhdnewa	07592 756504	Monday, Tuesday
10	Mrs Dayton	hbi4mye	07934 323946	Monday, Thursday
11/7	Miss Graves	wwy4ieb	07934 335799	Monday, Wednesday
12 & 13	Mrs James	wvkiom4	07926 524130	TBC

If your daughter experiences any issues with accessing work such as a computer issue or problem with Google Classroom, please ask your daughter to contact her Head of Year directly and she will resolve your query or pass it to the appropriate member of staff to deal with the issue.

For questions directly connected to lesson content or learning, please contact the subject teacher who has set the work via their agreed line of communication.

In the event of staff illness, the Year Group will be covered by another member of the pastoral team. This will be communicated to parents/carers and pupils.

Remote counselling will still take place for a small number of pupils. For those pupils/students already working with Natalie, an email has been sent detailing how their sessions can continue. Natalie will liaise with pupils/students which mode of communication is most beneficial to maintain a working relationship. For those pupils/students who have not met with Natalie but find that they would like to pursue Counselling; pupils/students can contact their Head of Year or email Natalie directly ([nlaidler@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:nlaidler@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)) requesting more information.

If you have concerns about your daughter's wellbeing or mental health during the school closure, please contact your daughter's Head of Year. If you are concerned that someone is at risk of harming themselves, please contact your GP or attend A&E.

The BBC has put together some information about protecting your wellbeing and mental health during this time: [Coronavirus: How to protect your mental health](#)

You may also wish to explore the following free resources:

Wellbeing and Mental Health resources		
Kooth	Free, safe and anonymous online wellbeing and mental health support for young people aged between 10 and 25 years old.	<a href="https://kooth.com/">https://kooth.com/</a>
YoungMinds	A text line for young people experiencing a	Text number 85258

Crisis Messenger	mental health crisis. Text the YoungMinds Crisis Messenger for free, 24/7 support.	<a href="https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/get-urgent-help/youngminds-crisis-messenger/">https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/get-urgent-help/youngminds-crisis-messenger/</a>
Chat Health	A confidential text messaging service for young people aged 11-19 to contact their local public health nursing (school nursing) team. You will get a reply within 24 hours from an NHS School Nurse between 9:00am and 5:00pm, Monday to Friday (except bank holidays).	Text number 07480 636 050 <a href="https://www.healthforteens.co.uk/health/about-chathealth/">https://www.healthforteens.co.uk/health/about-chathealth/</a>
Childline	Free advice and guidance for children and young people online, on the phone, anytime.	0800 1111 <a href="https://www.childline.org.uk/">https://www.childline.org.uk/</a>
Samaritans	Free telephone service for adults in need of someone to talk to 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.	116 123 <a href="https://www.samaritans.org/">https://www.samaritans.org/</a>
YoungMinds Parents' Helpline	The Parents Helpline is available to offer advice to parents and carers worried about a child or young person under 25. Call for free Mon-Fri from 9.30am to 4pm.	0808 802 5544 <a href="https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-helpline/">https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-helpline/</a>
Wellbeing Service	Self-referral service for people aged 18 and above in Hertfordshire who are concerned about their mental health.	<a href="https://www.hpft.nhs.uk/services/community-services/wellbeing-service/">https://www.hpft.nhs.uk/services/community-services/wellbeing-service/</a>

If you have any questions about the information given in this letter or would like to speak to someone about the matters it covers further, please contact any member of our pastoral team. If you have any significant safeguarding concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm whilst the school is closed you can contact Children's Services directly on 0300 123 4043.

May we take this opportunity to wish you and your daughters the best of health in these challenging times.

Yours sincerely

Mr A S Dudley

Mrs M Jackson

**Deputy Headteacher**

**Assistant Headteacher**

Miss K Parkin

Mrs S Allott

Miss S Lawrence

Mrs M Dayton

Ms D Graves

**Heads of Year**

Miss N Laidler

Mrs E James

**School Counsellor**

**Head of 6th Form**

