



The weekly newsletter of  
**Arena Academy**

**Welcome**

Friday June 5th 2020

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Our main articles today concern our year 10 students, particularly as they are the year group who will be sitting their GCSEs next year and who have all missed invaluable teaching time due to the lockdown.

From next week, Monday 8th June, students and their parents will be coming in to school for one-to-one interviews with a member of staff. These are dual purpose: to discuss the wellbeing of your children and how well they have been able to access our online learning provision, and also to show you what measures we have been putting in place to ensure hygiene and social distancing can be maintained within our building. Invitations are in the process of being sent out to all year 10 families so please ensure you reply to those as soon as possible. Please contact Miss Kilroy if you have not yet received yours. [ckilroy@arena-birmingham.academy](mailto:ckilroy@arena-birmingham.academy)

Then from Monday 22nd we will begin to hold face-to-face tutorial sessions for small groups of students in school. These sessions will last two hours, will be in groups of no more than six students per classroom and will feature wellbeing activities as well as subject-specific instruction. This is in line with current government guidance and is designed to supplement our online learning provision.

Please note that this does not affect key worker and vulnerable students who will continue to be allowed on site and who will be taught as they currently are in a separate part of school.

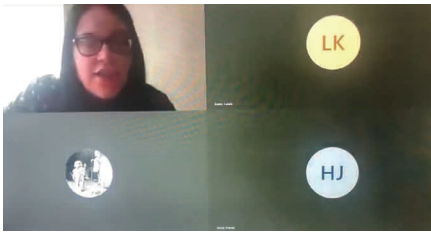
Once again, we thank you all for your patience and understanding during this most difficult of times. We cannot wait until the time when all of our students are back in our classrooms, where they belong, receiving a quality CORE education. Any queries, please contact [enquiry@arena-birmingham.academy](mailto:enquiry@arena-birmingham.academy)

### **Year 10 Work Experience from Mr Taylor**

Given the current circumstances, Year 10 Work Experience Week which was due to take place during the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020; will be cancelled in its physical form. However, we will be providing a Virtual Work Experience whereby students engage with online videos and workplace tours in order to gain an insight into their aspirational career choices.

We will be asking for the support of our community of parents, carers and family members in helping to make this experience worthwhile and where possible, inspirational! If you are would like to make an educational video regarding your line of work, then please do not hesitate to get involved. There will be more information to follow in the coming weeks. Thank you and stay safe!

# News



We were honoured to be featured on ITV News on Thursday night during a segment about the success of our on-line teaching. Many thanks to Miss Hassell and Harriet for highlighting the importance of continuing to provide a quality CORE education as lockdown continues. Whilst our focus is on our students we hope that all children up and down the country will soon receive the same quality of education we are striving to provide for your children.



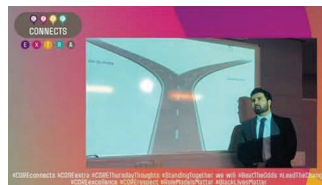
If you're interested in applying for this fantastic opportunity...

Step 1: Watch this clip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNH2Tzt0K88&feature=youtu.be>

Step 2: Produce 1 A4 sheet or a video of your own entitled, "I will beat the odds because..." explaining why you would like to be a leader, what kind of leader you would like to be and what barriers you feel you would need to overcome.

Send this to [coreconnects@core-education.co.uk](mailto:coreconnects@core-education.co.uk) by **5pm on Monday 8 June**.



## Role Models Matter Leadership Programme

In our support for the Black Lives Matters message, we pledge to challenge racism in all its forms and create young leaders of tomorrow to lead the change. This is why we want to use this moment in time as a platform to establish a student leadership programme which will focus on 'beating the odds'. Today we are launching the Role Models Matter leadership programme which we are opening up to FIVE students in each of our schools.

Every Thursday those 20 students - 5 from Arena - will meet an inspirational leader from different fields each week. These leaders will all have one thing in common: they will have succeeded as leaders despite the odds being stacked against them - they may have faced barriers because of their social class, their gender, their sexuality or their race. They all 'beat the odds'.

If you want to be one of those students, please write a one side of A4 or create a short video titled "I WILL BEAT THE ODDS BECAUSE..." explaining why you would like to be a leader, what kind of leader you want to be and what barriers you feel you will need to overcome in your pursuit to become a successful leader.

Send your application to [COREConnects@core-education.co.uk](mailto:COREConnects@core-education.co.uk) by **5pm on Monday 8 June**.



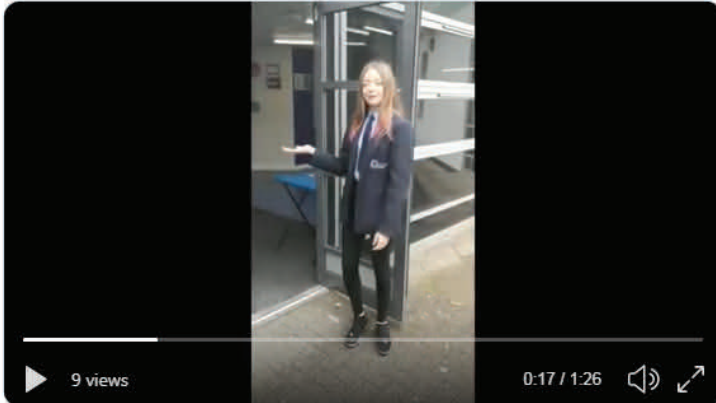
@core\_arena\_academy



@COREArenaAcad

# News

We know that the partial return of students to our site brings new challenges. Our staff and some amazing students have produced this video to help those returning over the next few weeks prepare for the [#newnormal!](#) [#COREexcellence](#)



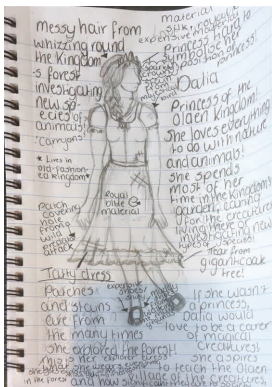
You can find this extremely helpful video on our Twitter feed or click here: <https://twitter.com/COREArenaAcad/status/1268912164057821187>

**CONNECTS**  
EVERY WEEKDAY MORNING  
AT 9:00AM  
FITNESS WITH MR ROGERS  
LIVE ON INSTAGRAM  
@COREconnects  
#COREconnects #COREextra  
DELIVERING A CORE EDUCATION

Tune in every weekday morning at 9.00am for Fitness with Mr Rogers.

This is broadcast live on Instagram @COREconnects

Get active each day!



We never cease to be amazed at the creativity and talent that so many of our students demonstrate on a regular basis! One of the KS3 tasks for this week involved designing and annotating a costume for a theatre or film production. Students had already written their script and created their characters, but now was the time to clothe them in their costumes.

This incredible piece of work was done by Niamh in 7GSK. Very well done, Niamh. I see a career path opening up for you here...

Mr Amos is running 'Debate Mate' once again, this time on Teams every Wednesday for years 7-9 from 2-3pm.

If you like to have your say on a range of subjects or just want to be involved in some topical discussion, please sign up with Mr Amos at [lamos@arena-birmingham.academy](mailto:lamos@arena-birmingham.academy)

**DEBATE MATE**  
HAVE YOUR VOICE  
MAKE YOUR SAY  
Calling **ALL KS3**  
Years 7-9 Pupils!  
Debate on what is going on in the world today!  
WHEN? Every Wednesday, 2PM  
WHERE? Microsoft Teams  
HOW? Email Mr Amos ASAP to book YOUR place!  
lamos@arena-birmingham.academy  
YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS  
**YOU**  
DELIVERING A CORE EDUCATION



@core\_arena\_academy



@COREArenaAcad

# Timetable Changes

From next week - Monday 8th June - we will begin our new timings of the day that will continue for the remainder of this academic year.



The timings are:

- 09:00 – 09:30: Fitness, accessed via the CORE Connects Instagram live.
- 09:30 – 10:00: Form Time (students will need to be log in to gain their attendance mark and get any extra information about their day)
- 10:00 – 11:00: Lesson 1
- 11:00 – 11:30: Break
- 11:30 – 12:30: Lesson 2
- 12:30 – 13:30: Lesson 3
- 14:00 – 15:00: COREextra Programme

Each lesson will be delivered online by their teachers. For Years 7 and 8, students will now be taught back in their sets – for example 7Y1 English or 7Z2 Maths.

Students are also given the opportunity on a Tuesday to sign up for **Tuesday Talents**. This gives students the opportunity to take part in a variety of creative masterclasses such as Art, Drama, Music or Sport. Each week students will need to sign up using the form on their form board – we hope that all students will get involved in these exciting events!

If you have any queries with the new timetable please do email Ms Hassell [chassell@arena-birmingham.academy](mailto:chassell@arena-birmingham.academy)

## Year 10 Masterclasses

There is also a change to the masterclasses being provided for Year 10. Masterclasses are now scheduled between 2pm and 3pm on the following days:

- Monday: English
- Tuesday: Maths
- Wednesday: Science
- Thursday: History/Geography/French

It is so important that students attend these sessions as it will give them the opportunity to gain outstanding teaching from lead practitioners across the CORE Trust. Some students have already signed up for these however if you would like your child to attend please email Ms Hassell on the email above.



## Designated Form Time – Monday-Friday from 9.30-10.00am

As of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020, we are introducing a designated time for registration and interaction between form tutors and their tutees. This will take place between **9.30-10.00am** each day and students must be present in the 'live' form group during this time to get their attendance mark. **Students no longer have all day to 'check in' with their form tutors as they have previously been able to do.**

Throughout each designated form time, students will take part in activities that will promote positive wellbeing and self-confidence whilst collaborating and communicating to share experiences and opinions and to solve problems. The form time activities will consist of the following topics:

- Monday: Catch up with a cuppa
- Tuesday: Newsround Discussion
- Wednesday: Skills to pay the bills
- Thursday: The joke's on you
- Friday: Mates that debate

Please encourage your child to attend their virtual Form Registration every day that they possibly can. If attendance during this designated time is not possible, please ask your child to email their form tutor to discuss this reason so that support can be provided if necessary.

### YEAR 6 INDUCTION UPDATE \*Reminder\*

Although the Covid-19 outbreak has forced us to alter our traditional arrangements for inducting our Year 6 students, making them feel welcome is just as important to us. If your child is due to be joining us in Year 6, we will be writing to you after Half Term but just to keep you posted, please see the highlights below:

- Virtual Tours of School
- Video Introduction to Arena
- Finding about our new cohort!
- Virtual Induction Parents' Evening



# Online Learning 'Netiquette' - Student Guide

**The Online 4Ps** - remember to be:

**punctual** (arrive on time, in fact preferably 5 min early),

**prepared** (have all your equipment and resources ready),

**productive** (treat this like a normal lesson, you're not on discord) and

**polite** (be friendly and people will be friendly to you as well.)

1. Be respectful. It is a lot easier to say mean or hurtful things in the virtual world, but it is of paramount importance to remember that both your classmates and teachers are real people who are affected by the words you say and write. The feelings and opinions of others are important, even if they differ from your own. We will operate a zero-trolling policy. Think... Would I say it to someone's face? If not, don't do it here either.
2. Be aware of strong language, all caps, and exclamation marks. It is easy for written text to be misread and misunderstood. Have you ever sent a text message with good intent, but your recipient thought you were being rude? If so, then you've experienced this first-hand. By being mindful of strong language, you can identify potential confusions before sending messages. Tip: read everything out loud before you send it.
3. Be careful with humour and sarcasm. Certainly, you shouldn't avoid being funny. We love to see your personality shine through in online classes. But like mentioned above, make sure that it is clear you are being funny and not being rude. Emoji and GIFs can be helpful when conveying humour or sarcasm so that it is read correctly.
4. Yes, grammar and spelling matter. While textspeak can be great for messages it is not what you should be using in an educational setting (even online) however, keep it formal. Your written communication should be professional and reflect the proper writing style. Save written shortcuts and less than stellar grammar for Snapchat if you must, but follow grammar rules for school. #smh
5. Respect others and remain safe. Remember that you should be behaving as you would do if you were in school. Turn your microphone on only when you're speaking. Don't talk over the teachers/ other students. Raise your hand to speak, and wait your turn. If you want to express your emotions, use the clap, thumbs up or smiley emoji. If live audio is being used, think about if there is anybody else in your house that can be heard over the microphone.
6. Don't post or share inappropriate content and be mindful of your camera. Only you can turn your camera on/off, but it should be turned off at all times. Remember, if you do turn your camera on, everyone can see you.
7. Be forgiving. Remember that not everyone will know these rules when they first join. Try to be understanding of others when they struggle with communication online. It is very different than simply talking to a person face-to-face.

# Supporting Our Community

During these difficult times it is hard to know where to turn for help, advice or just somebody that will listen.

The following two pages contains contacts for services that the welfare team at Arena Academy recommends.



Kooth is a free online service offering emotional and mental health support for children and young people

[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

## Kooth.com

### Online support for young people

We would like to remind you of the availability of our online service to support the **wellbeing** and **resilience** of your students.

Kooth is a web based confidential support service available to young people. Kooth provides a safe and secure means of accessing mental health and wellbeing support designed specifically for young people.

Kooth offers young people the opportunity to have a text-based conversation with a qualified counsellor. Counsellors are available from 12noon to 10pm on weekdays and 6pm to 10 pm at weekends, every day of the year on a drop-in basis. Young people can access regular booked online counselling sessions as needed. Outside counselling hours' young people can message our team and get support by the next day.

When students register with Kooth they will have support available to them now and in the future. Support can be gained not only through counselling but articles, forums and discussion boards. All content is age appropriate, clinically approved and fully moderated.

To find out more visit [kooth.com](http://kooth.com) where young people can register and others can find out more about the service.



Kooth is a service available to all children and families and reaches out to anyone who needs support especially through this time.

Please read the information and visit the website for more information.

[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

## Bereavement support services during COVID-19

Call: 0121 687 8010

Opening times:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Tues, Thurs: 9.00am - 8.00pm

Sat & Sun: 12.00pm - 5.00pm (From 1st June)



Other places you can seek support:

**ChildLine**  
0800 1111

**YOUNGMINDS**  
<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

**Pause.**

[www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk](http://www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk)

**PAPYRUS**

**HOPELINEUK**  
0800 068 41 41

<https://papyrus-uk.org/>

**CLICK CEOP**  
Internet Safety

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

Your Student Welfare Team want to offer you a different way to contact them.

You can now email the team:

**Mrs Chance Mrs Sinclair Mrs Kilroy**

Your email will only go to the staff in this team.

The emails are checked between 9.00am and 3.30pm every weekday in term time.

A member of the team will reply and talk to you about what happens next.

[student.welfare@arena-birmingham.academy](mailto:student.welfare@arena-birmingham.academy)

[www.arena-birmingham.academy](http://www.arena-birmingham.academy)

# Supporting Our Community

## Educational psychologist telephone helpline for parents and carers

Do you as a parent or carer at home with your children during the school shut down, feel that you need someone to talk to about how you can cope with this challenging time for families?

Birmingham Educational Psychology Service is providing a telephone helpline for any parent or carers of children, who feel they would benefit from a consultation with a psychologist to support them with any concerns arising at this time, for them or their families.

Areas of concern you may wish to discuss could include:

- Anxiety around the current situation and its impact on your children and family.
- Supporting you to support your children's emotional needs.
- Concerns about family relationships.
- Concerns about friendships, learning, daily structure and activities.
- How to best look after yourself so you can support your children.

The concerns can be related to school or family life.

You will be offered an initial telephone consultation of 30 minutes with a psychologist and a potential follow up session of another 30-minute consultation at a later date. These will be Monday-Friday, within standard working hours.

If you would like to access this service please email [kate.smith@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:kate.smith@birmingham.gov.uk) with the following information:

- Your name
- The telephone number you would like to be contacted on.
- The name of your child's school.
- Times and dates you are **not** available for a consultation.
- Whether an interpreter is required for you to access this service.

We will aim to get back to you within 2 working days to confirm a time and date for your consultation.

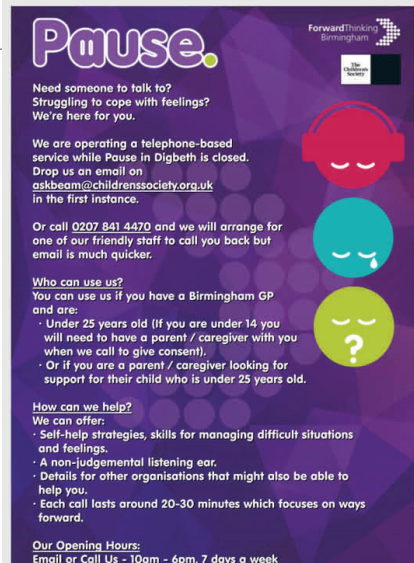
This service will, **as far as possible**, be confidential.

Bereavement support can also be accessed through the school student welfare Team:

[Student.welfare@arena-birmingham.academy](mailto:Student.welfare@arena-birmingham.academy)

Or

**0121 679 4663**



**Pause.** ForwardThinking Birmingham

Need someone to talk to?  
Struggling to cope with feelings?  
We're here for you.

We are operating a telephone-based service while Pause in Digbeth is closed.  
Drop us an email on [askteam@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:askteam@childrenssociety.org.uk) in the first instance.

Or call 0207 841 4470 and we will arrange for one of our friendly staff to call you back but email is much quicker.

Who can use us?  
You can use us if you have a Birmingham GP and are:

- Under 25 years old (If you are under 14 you will need to have a parent / caregiver with you when we call to give consent).
- Or if you are a parent / caregiver looking for support for their child who is under 25 years old.

How can we help?  
We can offer:

- Self-help strategies, skills for managing difficult situations and feelings.
- A non-judgemental listening ear.
- Details for other organisations that might also be able to help you.
- Each call lasts around 20-30 minutes which focuses on ways forward.

Our Opening Hours:  
Email or Call Us - 10am - 6pm, 7 days a week



# Wellbeing

## National Growing for Wellbeing Week 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June

Set up by gardening and wellbeing therapy organisation, Life at No.27, the week is a celebration of the magic that growing your own produce can do for your wellbeing, both physically and mentally.



Approximately 1 in 8 children and 1 in 4 adults in the UK will experience mental ill health each year. There is strong evidence highlighting the health benefits of gardening and GYO in particular, including improved confidence, resilience, communication, concentration and ultimately self-belief.

Gardening improves mental health, enables better physical health, provides an opportunity to connect with others, acquire new skills and enjoy the great outdoors.

After all, It's not what you grow, it's how YOU grow.

**We would love you to send us any pictures you have of anything you have grown or grow in the future and how this has made you feel.**



For more information about the benefits of Growing for Wellbeing visit:

<https://lifeatno27.com/national-growing-for-wellbeing-week/>

Don't forget that our welfare team are available between the hours of 8.30am and 4.30pm. The number is 0121 679 4663.

The Welfare Team consists of:

Claire Kilroy – Deputy Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead

Joanne Chance – Student Welfare and Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Emma Sinclair – Student Welfare and Deputy Safeguarding Lead.

You can also access information on the Student Welfare page of our website, or use this link

<http://arena-birmingham.academy/student-welfare/>

# Learning Topics week beginning Monday 8th June

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
English	Fantasy	Fantasy	<i>Blood Brothers</i>	<i>Blood Brothers</i>
Maths	Sequences	Decimals	Fractions, Decimals, Percentages	Algebra
Science	Ecology and Forces	Earth Structures and Rocks	Physics - Energy Chemistry - Bonding Biology - Infection & Response	Biology - Variation & Evolution Chemistry - Energy & Chemical changes
Triple Science			Chemical Changes	Ecology
History	20th Century Britain	20th Century Britain	Health and the People	Norman England/ Nazi Germany
Geography	Tourism, Maps	Tourism, The Earth	India	Resource Management, Urban Issues
RE	Buddhism	Buddhism	Alternative Religions	
French	Hobbies	Free time and the media	Me, my family & friends	KS4 Grammar, Environment
Art	Creative Photography/Art Challenges	Creative Photography/Art Challenges	Inside Out themed journal	Recording observations from primary sources
Photography			Key concepts - Image taking & critical investigation	Portraiture - Self portraiture
Drama	Creative Writing	Creative Writing	<i>Blood Brothers</i> - Musical Theatre	<i>Blood Brothers</i> - Musical Theatre
Business	Marketing	Dragons' Den project	Management leadership & ethics	Theme 1 revision (SPA/NMY) Enterprise & marketing
Computing	Coding, flowcharts	Virtual reality/worlds	System security	Storage devices
iMedia			Exam practice: digital graphics & preproduction skills	Practical digital graphics and preproduction skills
PE	Exercise & Fitness Videos and challenges uploaded daily improving physical & mental health of students			
Health/Social C.			PIES development of individuals	Care values - overcoming obstacles to access services
Child Dev.			Children's development through play	Unit 3 - Early years' practice
GCSE PE			Analysis of individual performance	Chapter 6 - Health, fitness & wellbeing
BTEC Sport			Practical Performance	Practical performance (10A2) Applying principles of personal training (All other groups)
Dance			Dance Styles and practitioners	
D.T.	Basic Skills in Textiles	Sustainability	Hospitality & Catering: Sustainability in the food industry	Engineering: properties of materials
Food			Food tech: Nutritional deficiencies and food safety	Food tech: Dietary needs and sustainability
Music	World Music	World Music	Song Writing	Song Writing & Concerto through time