

An Easter Message from the Catholic Senior Executive Leader

Dear Friends of Holy Cross MAC

I hope that you had a peaceful and restful Easter and that you and your families are all keeping well and staying safe during these very extraordinary and difficult times.

The recent few weeks have challenged everyone and been a very worrying time for us all but they have also brought out the best in so many people as so often happens in times of crises. People rise to the challenge and show their true characters. We have all been humbled by the tremendous courage of all our key workers and been inspired by the many tremendous acts of kindness we hear about on a daily basis. In particular, what an inspiration the former World War 2 veteran Captain Tom Moore has been to us all. Captain Tom's fundraising efforts have raised a current total of over £18 million for the NHS and he has said he will keep going as long as the money keeps coming in! Captain Tom is a powerful example of how one person can make a difference to so many through simple acts of kindness.

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister on 18 March that there would be partial closures of schools for all children, apart from vulnerable children and children of key workers, our schools have opened to enable key workers at the front-line fighting the virus to continue with their vital work. A huge thank you to all our staff who have worked so hard and responded selflessly to support our children and families at these difficult times. A particular thank you to those staff who have supported the opening of schools over the Easter period to continue to ensure that vulnerable children and children of key workers are able to attend school.



Following the announcement our schools were ready to ensure that children had work to do, providing quality daily online learning for pupils of all ages using a variety of mediums. If and when we are no longer able to offer supervision due to low staffing levels we will move to a phased hub-based model in a measured way but we will ensure that we inform you in advance.

Now that the government's FSM voucher scheme is available this has been offered to all affected families – please contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding this.

Our secondary schools are also working hard on emergency regulations to ensure that pupils who would have been sitting GCSE and A level exams still achieve the grades that they need and deserve this summer. A level results will be published on 13 August and GCSE results on 20 August and there will be further details shortly.

Our next steps are to begin the planning for the future and ensure the successful return of our children to our schools when the time comes. Once we have further details about this we will write to you and update you about the plan. However please do visit school websites and twitter feeds to keep up to date with the latest school information.

We will continue to do all we can over the coming months to support the national effort to get our lives back to what we took for granted only a few short weeks ago. Whilst everything seems to have changed utterly in recent weeks, all of us are confident that we will return to business as usual before too long. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

When Captain Tom Moore was asked for advice about how the nation can get over the current coronavirus crisis he replied “Tomorrow you will maybe find everything will be much better than today, even if today was alright. That’s the way I think I’ve always looked at it. Tomorrow will be a good day.”

We continue to pray for everyone who has been affected by this dreadful virus and for the safety of all our frontline workers and we pray that tomorrow and everyday will be a good day!

Holy Cross of Jesus Be Our Hope



Marina Kelly
Catholic Senior Executive Leader



Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

An Easter Message

Well this is not the Easter holidays any of us were expecting! During the Easter season although the Churches are closed we can still as families spend time in prayer.

Easter is a time of hope, which is grounded in an optimism that things will get better and so the meaning of the Easter story, the endless love that God gives to us all, has more importance now than ever.

We particular think of those that are ill or have died recently especially of our family, friends and colleagues and keep them in our prayers.

Hope is needed more now than ever, our children need to know that they can be kept safe, that things will get better and that the world will carry on once this is over. I see this positivity and hope emerging all around us amidst the crisis we are in. Communities are working to protect the most vulnerable in our society. Key workers are putting their own safety behind that of the needs of others to ensure health needs are met and essential services provided and that individually, by following the social distancing guidelines, it is to be hoped that we all can work to limit the effects of this crisis.

Staying positive is an important human trait and one which will support your children and families through these times. It is easier said than done, but I know it makes a difference to our children who are looking to us to provide guidance when the chips are down. Although closed, schools have been open for the children of key workers and vulnerable children and I thank members of staff from the bottom of my heart for providing child care and for the many that have volunteered to work over the Easter Holidays. Staff in a variety of roles from across the Trust have shown amazing commitment and dedication to our children. Because of you our schools have remained open for vulnerable children and those whose parents are key workers, children working from home have been set a variety of work to enable them to continue their education and those families who are entitled to Free School Meals have all been supplied with food. Those children who have attended our schools over the last two weeks have enjoyed a wide range of fun and exciting learning sessions provided by staff in school.

A **Big Thank You** to all of you, the MAC Central Team, Headteachers, Deputy Headteachers, Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Learning Mentors, Lay Chaplains, Administration staff, finance staff, business staff, ICT staff, Dining Room assistants, our Catering staff, cleaning staff, nursery staff and our site service officers. Whatever way you have helped either being in school, keeping it open, working from a home, running childcare centres, using the time to upskill, delivering home learning in its many formats, reaching out to families in our communities, processing or delivering meals or vouchers, or keeping the normal day to day finance and administration going.



Many of life's normal pursuits have been curtailed with parents and staff working from home, this new 'normal' is taking time for us all to adjust and as new guidance from the Government seems to appear each day but we know that we will come through it. We all need the hope that Easter brings, the hope that comes from making the most of the positives we do have in our lives, for they are many but we might have to search for them.

Wishing all our families a safe, healthy and hope-filled Eastertide.

Holy Cross of Jesus, Be Our Hope.

You may wish to look at the following:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kedn9AYjICo>

<https://youtu.be/See7iURufuY>

John Teahan - Chair
Holy Cross Catholic MAC
April 2020



Thank You

To all of our Key Workers, whichever sector you work in, our heartfelt thanks for all that you are doing to keep us safe in these unprecedented times.

- Doctors
- Teachers
- Support staff
- Social Workers
- Waste Disposal
- Police
- Paramedics
- Religious staff
- Nurses
- Childcare providers
- Justice staff
- Care Workers
- Midwives
- Fire Service
- Ambulance Service
- Food Producers
- Lorry Drivers
- Armed Forces
- Delivery Drivers
- Bereavement Services
- Prison staff
- IT and Telecommunication Staff
- Probation Staff
- Transport Network Staff
- Financial Services
- Pharmacy Staff
- Postal Workers
- Border Security
- Utilities staff
- Volunteers
- Catering staff
- Journalists and Broadcasters





Holy Cross Catholic MAC

Keeping Our Children Safe

Safeguarding our children remains the responsibility of everyone, especially during these difficult times. If you have a safeguarding concern about a child and you feel a child is at immediate risk of significant harm, you can contact the:

MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) at 024 76 788 555 (or 024 76 832 222 for the out of hours emergency service).

The Family Hub is available to provide advice and support to families and can signpost families to lots of other helpful services.

Numbers of Family Hubs:

School	Telephone No.	Email address
Bishop Ullathorne	02476 978 160	MosaicFamilyHub@coventry.gov.uk
Cardinal Newman	02476 788 444	PathwaysFamilyHub@coventry.gov.uk
Christ the King	02476 788 444	PathwaysFamilyHub@coventry.gov.uk
St Augustine's	02476 788 444	PathwaysFamilyHub@coventry.gov.uk
St Elizabeth's	02476 977 991	FamiliesForAllHub@coventry.gov.uk
St John Vianney	02476 978 160	MosaicFamilyHub@coventry.gov.uk
St Thomas More	02476 978 100	AspireFamilyHub@coventry.gov.uk

The School Nursing Service has a parentline than can be accessed via texting 07507 329 114. Please ensure you text this number and do not ring it.

Don't forget **Childline** as well. They can be contacted by children on 0800 111 111 and information can be found at <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Stay in contact



Whilst our doors might be closed, we are still here to support families. If you have any questions or need to update your school with anything, please do email or ring your school between 8am -5pm. We may not be able to respond immediately, but we will try to deal with your request as soon as possible.

Holy Cross Catholic MAC

Contact Details

Holy Cross MAC Head Office is located at:

Holy Cross Catholic MAC
c/o St Augustine Catholic Primary School
Heathcote Street
Radford
Coventry CV6 3B

Name	Role	Email	Phone
Marina Kelly	Catholic Senior Executive Leader	marina.kelly@hcmac.co.uk	02475 186511
Martyn Alcott	Chief Finance and Operating Officer	martyn.alcott@hcmac.co.uk	02475 186512
Debbie Hetherington	Finance Manager	debbie.hetherington@hcmac.co.uk	02475 186513
Jos Parry	Project Manager	jocelyn.parry@hcmac.co.uk	02475 186515
John Teahan	Chair, MAC Board	john.teahan@hcmac.co.uk	02475 186516
Main Line MAC Office 02475 186555			

The phone numbers may look a little strange because the prefix has changed to 02475 rather than the more familiar 76 ending.

If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message and we will get back to you.

