

31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

### Updates

- We have been made aware of the below scam (also image attached) that is currently circulating and telling you that you have been fined and need to click on a link. **This is a SCAM and please, please do not click on the link.** The fraudsters are spoofing the Government address. They are after your data and financial information etc.



- We understand that :
  - The Government has only sent one text message to the public regarding new rules about staying at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Any others claiming to be from UK Government are false.”
  - Criminals are able to use spoofing technology to send texts and emails impersonating organisations that you know and trust. We would remind anyone who receives an unexpected text or email asking for personal or financial details not to click on the links or attachments, and don't respond to any messages that ask for your personal or financial details.”

**If you receive any such fake GOV.UK/Coronavirus messages, please report these to Action Fraud –**

**<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-phishing>**

- A national voucher scheme was launched today for schools providing free school meals. Children eligible for free school meals can benefit from a national voucher scheme whilst they stay at home. This delivers on the Government's commitment to provide ongoing support for those children that would receive benefits-related free school meals at their school. Schools will be able to provide every eligible child with a weekly shopping voucher worth £15 to spend at supermarkets while schools are closed due to coronavirus. Schools can continue to provide meals for collection or delivery themselves, but where this is not possible, the scheme will allow schools to provide vouchers

to families electronically, or as a gift card for those without internet access. Upon receipt of the vouchers, parents will be able to redeem them online via a code, or have them sent to their house as a gift card and then use them at supermarkets across the country. Full details of this scheme can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance>

We will be in touch with all free school meals eligible pupils tomorrow, via a 'Google Doc' survey. Please respond to this ASAP if you are eligible.

- We would like to make you aware of –

(1) The following website which provides online parenting resources during COVID-19.

<https://www.covid19parenting.com/>

(2) A FREE webinar for parents hosted by Professor Amanda Kirby

**Time** – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 (7:30pm – 8:30pm)

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/events/free-webinar-for-parents-managing-you-and-your-childs-wellbeing-being-realistic-and-human-and-not-super-human-1>

They have advised that this session will:

- Help you better understand what anxiety is
- Provide practical tools to help you and your children manage and minimise anxiety in these uncertain times and improve happiness and wellbeing
- Focusing on remembering to be realistic, not superhuman!

(3) Free resources from Autism UK for students and their families

<https://www.autism.org.uk/services/helplines/coronavirus/resources/helpful-resources.aspx>

Take care all.

Kind regards

The Senior Leadership Team

