

To: All Headteachers

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Ask For: Mr Matt Dunkley
Date: 27 March 2020

Dear Colleague

## A big thank you

I would like to thank you and all your staff for your tremendous efforts this week. It has been fantastic that schools have remained open to the families who need support.

A few things from me as we round the week up:

The Easter provision guidance mentioned in my letter yesterday is on Kelsi at <a href="https://www.kelsi.org.uk/">https://www.kelsi.org.uk/</a> data/assets/pdf file/0005/106367/Easter-Provision-FAQs.pdf

Early next week we will put on Kelsi guidance on managing suppliers and recording of exceptional costs.

As you know, the DfE introduced a daily return which all schools have been asked to submit by midday. The DfE has requested all authorities remind schools of the need to do this so that the National picture can be assessed. I am confident that Kent schools are completing the DfE's return as nearly all are submitting information to us as requested. Please continue to do this. The DfE is working to create a portal which will enable LAs to view data for schools in their areas. It is hoped this will be available at the end of next week. If this works, we will be able to revisit whether we need schools to make a daily separate return to us.

While these are not normal times, we do need to continue undertaking the statutory compliance visits in schools where we are the responsible body, to ensure they remain compliant. This will be true even if schools are closed for extended periods. Please find further information via the link below:

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0004/106393/Schools-Facilities-Management-guidance.pdf

For secondary colleagues - In many cases Year 11 and 12 learners will already have firm plans for September 2020, however a number may not have completed their planning and in the current circumstances it is more difficult for them to do so.

I know you have been working with the Skills and Employability Service to help identify and support those young people at being at risk of becoming NEET in September. We ask that you update this list as soon and possible and send it to us so that we can start on this work.

Rory.Abbott@theeducationpeople.org – South and East and Owen.Bartholomew@theeducationpeople.org – North and West

We will also continue to keep Kent Choices up to date and ask you to encourage all Year 11 and 12 students to register their preferences for their onward destination as usual. We will write to all students to advise them of this.

I wish you all a relaxing weekend.

Hatt Smely

Yours sincerely

**Matt Dunkley** 

**Corporate Director** 

Children, Young People and Education