

## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NORTHAMPTON



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Dear Parents,

We have only been a little over a week now home learning, though it feels a lot longer I'm sure. Thank you for your hard work supporting your children we appreciate it is not as easy task. The teachers have started making home phone calls this week checking how you are all managing with the learning. As always, if there are any issues, please do ask and we will try our best to help in any way we can. Thank you also for all the kind messages of support and appreciation. The teachers have been working exceptionally hard preparing and engaging with you as part of home learning and delivering lessons in school for the children of critical workers. The messages really help morale.

### An Update on Free school Meals Vouchers

As of yesterday, we have now heard that the Government will now be restarting the voucher system, from 18<sup>th</sup> January, for those eligible for benefits related Free school meals **who are not in school**. Staff are now starting the registration for this. We will let you know when the vouchers are available and are being circulated.

### Free Mobile Data Support

This week the government announced additional support for families to increase their mobile phone data. This will allow students to tether devices i.e. tablets and computers to your mobile phone and use the extra data to access school online resources. This scheme is open to children and young people who:

- don't have access to a fixed broadband connection
- cannot afford the additional data needed to access educational resources or social care services
- have access to a mobile device that uses a participating network
- are facing disruption to their face-to-face education, or have been advised not to attend school

The following providers are a part of the scheme:

- EE
- Sky Mobile
- Smarty
- Tesco Mobile

**OUR LADY  
IMMACULATE**

**CATHOLIC ACADEMIES TRUST**

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Academies Trust, c/o St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School, Tyne Crescent, Bedford, MK41 7UL  
Company Number: [09436283](https://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/09436283)

- Three
- Virgin Mobile
- O2

Not all providers offer the same and some are restricted to contract only SIMS. To see more information on the providers please see this link.

<https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/guide-to-collecting-mobile-information/telling-about-offer>

### **CBeebies and CBBC Programmes to support home learning**

You may have already discovered...the BBC is bringing hundreds of educational resources together to help with home-schooling. CBBC will broadcast three hours of primary school programmes from 9am every weekday. They will include BBC Bitesize Daily, as well as other much-loved shows with an educational twist, such as Our School, Celebrity Supply Teacher, Horrible Histories and more. Hopefully this is something else to support you at home and also fun and educational for the children. Here is the link also to their online resources:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/curations/bitesize-on-cbeebies>

Please remember as well as communicating with you through email, all our Home Learning resources are available on the website under **Our Learning - Remote Learning 2021**. Please do keep looking, as it is regularly updated and more resources will be available over time. The staff are all enjoying seeing the learning shared on Purple Mash. Please remind / help your child to upload the "To dos" and respond to the teacher comments.

Have a good weekend and keep safe.

Kind Regards

Mrs K. Yuen

**Executive Headteacher**