

March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Pastoral support during school closure

At this difficult time we would like to continue offering your daughter excellent pastoral care and to ensure her physical and emotional health are being looked after.

We are asking that if parents have concerns for their daughter's wellbeing whilst school is closed then please contact their daughters Head of Year or Mrs Gilmore (Mental Health Lead) rachael.gilmore@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk. We would then look to triage your daughter to the correct service we have in school or to a service out of school if we cannot meet the need through what we can offer via school.

The concern maybe regarding one of the following issues; low mood, anxiety levels, eating habits, sleeping habits or another matter. Through school we can offer one of the following services, if it is appropriate:

- Erica, School Councillor who can offer one-to-one sessions via Microsoft Teams
- Dena Donaldson, Wellbeing coordinator who can offer one-to-one telephone sessions
- Educational Wellbeing Practitioners who can offer video or phone sessions
- School Nurse who can offer advice and refer onto other services if you would like to speak to the school nursing team during the Covid-19 outbreak, please Phone 0208 1023350 or Email CLCHT.schoolnursingmerton@nhs.net for confidential telephone health advice and support between Monday and Friday 9am to 5pm

There are also:

- **Kooth** – www.kooth.com. Online support services for young people, 11-25 years. It offers free online counselling from 12pm to 10pm Monday to Friday from 6pm to 10pm Saturday and Sunday
- **Young Minds Online**. A helpline support for anyone worried about the emotional wellbeing or mental health of a young person aged 0-25 www.youngminds.org.uk
- **Good Thinking** <https://www.good-thinking.uk/> For adults who live in London, offers support and links to apps for helping with anxiety, stress, low mood and sleep deprivation
- **Family Lives**. This is a free help line that offers support and advice on any aspect of parenting and family life - they have volunteers working from home 9am-9pm Mon-Fri and 10am-3pm Sat/Sun 0808 800 2222
- **GP** – Your family GP is well placed to support with health issues although in the current climate may only be able to offer telephone consultations.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are concerned about your daughter's wellbeing.

We hope your family stay safe and well.

Mrs Alexander (Assistant Head teacher Inclusion)