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**Federation Headteacher Miss J Concannon**  
<http://www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk/>

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**COVID – 19 UPDATE**  
**Getting Financial Help**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

If you are struggling financially during the Coronavirus outbreak, please use the links below to find out what support is currently available at this time.

**Benefits**

If you require information regarding claiming benefits during this time please click through to the Department of Work and Pensions [Benefits during COVID-19 web page](#).

[Surrey Welfare Rights Unit \(SWRU\) website](#) contains up to date information about benefits available. You will also find guidance for the self-employed here too.

**Job Centres**

Job centres will remain open and will continue to support people who are not able to use phones or the internet, including homeless people. Advice about how to access benefits and job centre appointments can be found on the [Government's support for benefit claimants and businesses web page](#).

**Universal Credit**

[Advice about Universal Credit can be found here](#). You can also call the Universal Credit helpline to get help making your claim online or if you need help applying for an advance payment. Telephone 0800328 5644 or Textphone 0800 328 1344. Open Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm.

**Citizens Advice Service**

Citizens Advice Service can help with enquiries about benefits and financial support. Their service is now completely online here at [Citizens Advice Service](#).

**Surrey Crisis Fund**

The [Surrey Crisis Fund](#) is a discretionary fund run by Surrey County Council providing financial help to Surrey residents who have nowhere else to turn in an emergency or after a disaster.

**If you are struggling to put food on the table**

Food banks and Community Fridges are there for people struggling financially to put food on the table. Visit the [Surrey Information Point](#) website for details on foodbanks and Community Fridges available in Surrey. Or perhaps you can donate your time to help out?

[The Trussell Trust](#) – There are over 1,200 food bank centres across the UK who provide a minimum of three days' emergency food and support to people experiencing crisis. Please visit their help page.

Kind regards,

Miss J. Concannon  
Federation Headteacher