**VIRTUAL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE UPDATE FOR CARERS 1st April 2020**

Dear Carers,

I hope you are well and adjusting to these strange times.

Last week we inundated you with a number of websites to support education and enjoyment of learning – I really hope these have been useful to you.

Below is how to ensure you can continue to enjoy the **Tameside library services online:**

*There is a wealth of free e-reading matter available - whether it’s books, magazines, comics, newspapers or even the Encyclopedia Britannica, it’s all at your fingertips. All you need is your Tameside Libraries card and PIN number.*

*BorrowBox lets you borrow, renew, reserve or return e-books and e-audiobooks round the clock, seven days a week. You can read them online or by downloading the app:* [*www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/ebooks*](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/ebooks)

*RB Digital -* [*www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/emagazines*](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/emagazines) *- is the gateway to popular magazines while PressReader -* [*www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/pressreader*](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/pressreader) *- provides national and international newspapers and comics. If you’re looking for information or help with studying, or want to find out about something, then try our virtual reference library -* [*www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/onlineservices#EB*](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/onlineservices#EB)

*For full details of Tameside Libraries and how the service is being provided in response to covid-19 visit* [*www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries*](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries)*#TamesideLovesReading*

We now have a new **SEND Parent/Carer Helpline:**

The SEND Pupil Support Service is now offering a Parent/Carer Helpline. The service is for  parents/carers of children with EHCPs  currently not in school. The service will offer support and guidance to parents/carers who have SEND children at home and who are currently struggling to support, engage and/or manage their SEND needs. They may be able to suggest strategies to help parents and carers engage their children with work set by school. The helpline will be available to parents/carers from  Monday 30th March and will operate between the hours of 9am-1pm.

Helpline details as follows: Mon-Fri

9am to 11am  0161-3438381         11am to 1pm  : 07971132375

We’ve attached you an interesting document from Jennifer Knock, a leading expert on attachment and trauma with some useful information about trauma and possible reactions to the fear of the current situation. It was aimed for school staff but I think it gives useful insights for us all.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions around education and remember not to put undue pressure on yourselves to deliver a particular curriculum, these are unprecedented times and you must take care of all of your needs.

Best wishes, Amanda

**Amanda Aylward**

**Virtual School & College**