

CEO Update
16/04/2020 10:54

Dear Colleagues

I hope that you managed to have some time to relax over the Easter Weekend.

My focus for this week and next week continues to be what might come next after the lockdown. In anticipation of change, we are looking at what we might be able to offer our customers whilst accepting that there are likely to be a number of restrictions for some time to come. We will all need to continue to be imaginative and adaptable, ready to make the most of the opportunities as soon as they become available. FSC has also offered a number of our centres to help with the national effort although at the time of writing we are still waiting to hear more.

The response to our #fieldworklive sessions has continued to grow in both scale and reach with 225,000 learners expected to take part including from the USA, Tanzania, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Spain and Switzerland. We are continuing the publicity push this week and are pleased to see a growth in peer to peer recommendations with many schools sharing the information about the sessions among themselves.

Whilst a lot of my focus is looking forward, I am aware that the ongoing fallout from the closure of our centres continues to put a big strain on both the admin and finance teams. So my thanks go to them as they work through the huge task of rearranging bookings, deal with insurance claims and companies, sort out deposits and refunds and make sense of the changing government assistance schemes. At the same time finance staff are providing the vital information to assist me in forecasting our finances.

Do keep in touch with colleagues and keep checking the [Staff News](#). Staff from HR and others from right across the organisation have been involved in pulling together resources that they have found helpful, sharing positive news and generally boosting morale via the slack groups. I understand that the daily 11am 'Through the Keyhole' game has become a firm favourite. I'm also looking at hosting a mass zoom Q&A session in the near future.

I finish on a more sombre note. Whilst we all find lockdown difficult, we all know that it's for a reason. This has been brought home to us again this week with the sad news that a colleague has lost a second family member to covid-19. I'm sure that you will join me in sending our condolences.

Best wishes and keep safe

Mark