



27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### **SWAY Covid 19 contact**

As we can't meet face-to-face right now, SWAY are keeping in contact with young people online, via Facebook and our new Instagram account launched this week. In the coming weeks we will be using a group chat platform online setup by our partners, Youth for Christ, and running group video chats on Zoom connecting young people to each other.

SWAY will continue to mentoring young people online and, with parental consent secured, they can check in for 20-minute 1-1 video call sessions (once or twice a week) to talk about anything they want to. Already 4 young people have taken up this option in the first week and we have 5 booked in for next week.

Once we have parental permission we plan to run three virtual youth groups (via video group call) and will look to continue open house enabling young people to continue exploring God's word together. This week I have been encouraged by how well the young people are coping during my calls around; we managed to contact 15 young people so far.



( Video call with young person 26.03.20)

Jennie continues to keep in contact with families checking in with them via phone and supporting and encouraging them. There are going to be many challenges for families in the months to come. Jennie is also mentoring a young person once a week and supporting the wider work of SWAY.

The SWAY team and friends continue to meet together on Thursday morning on Zoom (video call) to pray for each other and over the families and young people we work with.

I'm also having to come to turns with the working from home supporting Vivi as she home schools Noah while chasing a energetic two year old (Zachariah) around the house, I now have a new appreciation for all Vivi does around the home and I'm grateful to be around Vivi and the boys more, and pray that families will be draw together and become more resilient and stronger during this time.

Life is going to be interesting over the next few months as we try and look at new ways of meeting the needs of young people when all the rules have changed.

Andy Dorning

SWAY Lead worker

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