



# St Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

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**Headteacher:** Mr T McCabe | **Deputy Headteachers:** Mrs J Morgan, Mrs N Yorke Robinson | **Chair of Governors:** Mrs P Jones

**Registered Charity Number:** 1075795 | **Facebook/Twitter:** StJosephsRCHS

4<sup>th</sup> May 2020

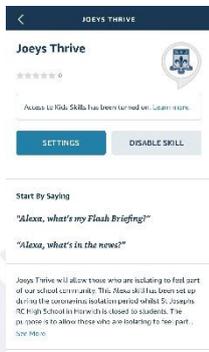
## Keeping in touch during lockdown – Joey's Thrive Flash Briefing App



Dear Students and Parents

Communication during lockdown has been one of the most important challenges over the last few weeks. Thank you for engaging via the many different sources of communication: E-praise, Parent-mail, e-mail, Facebook and the school website to name but a few. We are committed to ensuring good communication and would ask that you check that your child knows their school email address and E-praise login, as these are both key to communication, and will continue to play an essential role post lockdown.

We are very fortunate to also have the opportunity to trial a new App designed by one of our own Year 10 students, which could also continue to provide a further means of communication both now and once we are back at school. It has the potential to act as a school 'radio service' and support pupils to keep in touch.



We are pleased to say that the school Alexa App has now been approved and the Joey's Thrive flash briefing app is now live in the Amazon Alexa Skills store. The school's Alexa app 'Joey's Thrive' has many possibilities ahead of it and so many possible uses. Initially, we will be using it to keep you informed of any updates that we send out weekly. Moving forward we will share with you how we can all engage with it to bring the community together, like a 'live Facebook'. The App will not replace any of our current forms of communication, rather enhance them and make them more personal and accessible.

We are very proud that this is one of our own students who has worked hard to develop this app during the lockdown period and shows just how resourceful and creative the whole Joey's family can be when we all pull together as a community.

Should you wish to download the App please follow the instructions below. We look forward to your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

  
Mrs A.P. Mc Donnell  
Assistant Headteacher  
Learning & Teaching

## HOW TO ACCESS THE ALEXA FLASH BRIEFING:

### How to access through Alexa:

In order to play the Joey's Thrive Alexa app, you first need to install it as part of your flash briefing on your Alexa device.

1. Open the Alexa app on your phone 
2. Go to the Settings menu 
3. Select **Settings**
4. Select **Flash Briefing**
5. Click the + or **Add content** & select the magnifier glass in the top-right corner
6. Search for Joeys Thrive, select it and click on '**Enable To Use**'

Then whenever you want to hear the latest Joey's Thrive announcements, you just ask, "*Alexa, play my flash briefing.*"

You can either play it through an Alexa device or through the app on your phone, pressing the  button and speaking to your Alexa phone app in the same way you would to an Alexa device.

### How to listen if you don't have access to an Alexa device:

If you don't have an Alexa device in the home, that doesn't matter.

1. All you need to do is visit the app store on your phone and download the app called 'Amazon Alexa'. It has the 
2. Then either log in with your current Amazon account or create a new account & log into the app (this can all be done through the Amazon Alexa app itself)
3. Go to the Settings menu 
4. Select **Settings**
5. Select **Flash Briefing**
6. Click the + or **Add content** & select the magnifier glass in the top-right corner
7. Search for Joeys Thrive, select it and click on '**Enable To Use**'

If it doesn't connect straight away, then just log out & log back into the app and press the  button in the bottom centre of the app screen and say, "*Alexa, play my flash briefing.*" It will then ask you what you would like to listen to, say, "Joey's Thrive." This will then play the Joey's Thrive flash briefing & enable it for further use.

In future, all you need to do is open the app, press the  button in the bottom centre of the Amazon Alexa app screen & say, "*Alexa, play my flash briefing.*"