



Dear New Link Member & Parent/Carer,

We are writing to welcome you and invite you to join us at [Link](#). We hope you're really looking forward to it. As you may know the move up happens at the end of the summer half term holiday so we would love to welcome you to your **first Link session on Wednesday 3rd June**.

Due to Coronavirus this letter is not as it normally would be and obviously moving up to Link will not be as it would normally be! However, I hope you are excited anyway! I have left some bits in the letter which we currently are not able to do but hopefully it will give you an idea of what we would normally do and hope to do in the future.

As you probably already know [Link normally](#) meets in the [Link](#) room on Wednesday evenings 8:00-9:30pm. We like to encourage [Link](#) to come along to the 6:30 service and some also get involved in some way with the evening service.

Link is very laid back and friendly group of young people who, when we meet, spend some time looking at the Bible and learning about what Christians believe and what it means to live as a Christian (although you don't have to be a Christian and we don't assume that people are...). We also enjoy games, chill out, chat and of course have some food.

Currently Link is meeting each week over Zoom (we will send you the link once you have returned your information form – see below). We are still doing most of the things described above as best we can.

We are also making extensive use of WhatsApp and Instagram. (on the information form tick the box to say you are happy for your child to be added to the WhatsApp group. We use WhatsApp during our Zoom meeting to post questions and answers and during the week we use both WhatsApp and Instagram to set weekly challenges (some are serious but most are silly!), post encouraging videos and pictures, bible verses and anything we can to encourage and keep up with each other.

To follow us on Instagram search StBotsYouth and ask to follow...

Coming up this term...

The **Link** Weekend Away should have been **28-30 June**. (this is almost certainly going to be cancelled) This is always a real highlight of the year for **Link**. It's always a great time when we can get to know each other better, get to know God better and have a blast! We will hope to go back again next year on the same weekend which is the last weekend in June (25-27 June 2021).

We normally go to 'Gaines Manor' (<http://www.gaines.org.uk>) which is a Christian residential youth center on the Hereford/Worcester border. The Gaines is an old manor house with loads of space for sports and other activities. The weekends include great food, loads of activities including combat archery, time to just chill out and relax and chances to look at the Bible together and think more about what is involved in following Jesus. There are a great team of people at 'Gaines' who look forward to meeting us, feeding us and leading us through the weekend.

We really hope you will be able to come and join us next year, it is always a great time together. If you have big exams the **Link** Weekend Away should be the perfect place to come, wind down and relax. The cost of the weekend is normally around £75 + transport (£10-15) - however if cost is going to be an issue please talk to Andy or one of the leaders - we would much rather have you than your money.



New things...

This last year we have started a new event for young people called '**Equipped**'. '**Equipped**' is for both Link & 1eighty members. This is an evening for those who want to go deeper in their faith and be Equipped to live for Jesus and tell others about him. The evenings are more focussed and an opportunity to think more deeply about some of the things we talk about at Link & 1eighty.

'**Equipped**' normally runs on the 1st and 3rd Sunday's during term time from 8-9pm (after the evening service). We meet in Rectory Cottage (next to Church House). Currently '**Equipped**' is not meeting.

Other stuff...

Normally we would include with this letter our program card (this is not attached as our program is not as it would be normally, however they are normally sent out termly), which tells you what's happening.

Please would you **fill in the enclosed members information form**. (It is important this is completed and returned before we can send you a Zoom link and add you to WhatsApp). We do aim where possible to make email our preferred form of communication. The details

and forms are also available on the St Bots website www.stbots.church. If you use Facebook then **please join our group** 'St Bots Parents & YP Leaders' where reminders, updates and occasional articles are posted. There is also a parents WhatsApp group where we post updates.

With the current situation I am also trying to send out a short weekly email with a summary of what we are doing with Link & 1eighty each week. We also have a NEW St Bots Youth Ministry website <https://youthstbots.wixsite.com/stbots-youth> with articles, blog posts and a podcast which is recorded by some of the young people.

Normally we have socials during a term, and we will send out information about these as a when we are able to do them. We also have **Link** hoodies for those who would like to buy them we will do a new order when things have settled down a bit!

We are looking forward to the rest of this term as we continue to have a great time together and learn more about who Jesus is and what it means to follow him.

If you have any questions or want to ask about anything then do get in touch. The team are really looking forward to welcoming you along to **Link** for the first time on **Wednesday 3rd June.**

Yours in Christ

Andy & the **Link** Team