

## ***What has kept me going through these tough times.***

During this scary and stressful time frame, something has changed for us all. Whether that's a like, a dislike, a hobby and even a relationship. We have all changed. A lot of people have lost their lives and relatives to this virus. Some feeling hopeless for what's happened and for what's to come. That's the question we are all asking. What is going to happen? The simple answer is, the virus is either going to be gone or the virus is going to be as strong as ever. Really, we are all the answer to the question. You are probably wondering what I mean by this. My understanding is that if we try our absolute best, our nation will be cleared of the virus. If we don't limit our social interactions, that's lives gone. There are two paths to this, the path full of sunshine and rainbows and the dark path that you never seem to find the end to. We all want this virus to end but some of us don't think and don't feel empathy for those who are dying and suffering because of **us**.

"What has kept me going during this time?" was a tricky question to answer. Firstly, I thought of social media and music. These are the things I would say on a normal, everyday occasion but not for this, this was different. As I thought deeper into this question, I've realised what I'm lucky to have, the things in everyday life seem to be of normal. The things I take for granted every day of my life are my family and their health. We all have times of sickness and uncertainty in our casual lives. These last six months have shown me that I am lucky that my family is safe and healthy enough. None of us caught the virus. We all survived. I know that sounds a bit cheesy, but it is the truth. We are all here at the end of the day. I feel incredible sympathy for those who have lost relatives around me and all over the world. All of my family have gotten each other through this pandemic. We were closer than ever and yet so far apart. We were there for each other and came out of the first wave together. All though my family have all suffered mentally, we are still here. Together.

Leah Murphy - Aidan 2