

18 March 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian

The announcements this evening from the government have significant and complex implications. In this letter I will address key issues where I can, but further communications will be necessary in the coming days to provide more clarity.

The government has announced this evening that “exams will not take place as planned in May and June. Though we will make sure that pupils get the qualifications they need and deserve for their academic career”.

The continuing lack of clarity in this statement will be distressing to year 11 students and parents. Our initial intention is to continue to teach year 11 through to the summer term remotely or onsite. This is in case the outcome from the government is that there will be examinations in the Autumn term instead. We will adapt this in the light of any future changes.

It is likely now that after Friday our year 11 students will not be in school again this academic year. We will hold a Year 11 assembly in the morning tomorrow and a leavers assembly on Friday this week. We will hold a Prom when we are able to if it is the wish of the students to do so. Year 11 students have suffered from this situation and I wish them to have the fullest experience that they can. We have been immensely proud of them and the other students over the past few weeks in how mature and resilient they have been.

The Government has announced that schools will be closed from Friday, they will remain closed until further notice except for children of key workers and vulnerable children.

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those with Education, Health and Care Plans.

It will now be vital for us to gather information from parents to plan the staffing on site in the weeks ahead. Once we have more information about all the key worker roles and how this applies we will send a link to parents in a letter this week that will enable them to identify that they wish us to supervise their children on site.

Our current arrangements for free school meals will run until Friday, the government is introducing more support and I will give more details of this in a letter later this week. Please be reassured this is a priority and we will continue to support these children.

I would now like to outline some of the logistical arrangements for students from Monday who are at home.



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We have been using the work link on the website this week for students at home and this continues till Friday.

We have been developing plans for this closure over several weeks and staff are ready to begin on Monday.

From Monday in order to provide more in depth tasks tailored to students, teachers will be providing work in google classroom to their normal classes as per students timetables. So a student will work through their normal timetable virtually on the device at home, 5 lessons a day as now. We will mark work remotely as appropriate and will be utilising the many online resources available.

We are very fortunate that we are a school that already has highly integrated ICT capability and students and staff fluent in its use. Our students will be in a very good place to learn at home in comparison to the situation nationally.

We will continue our pastoral care and maintain ICT support to aid parents and students through the next few months.

Students with EHCPs will be onsite but we will continue to support SEN students remotely.

Please continue to use the office email address for queries, I would ask please that you reserve this for urgent queries this week. More information will follow in subsequent letters.

This will be a difficult time for us all in the coming months but please be reassured we will continue to maintain communication and support you at home.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Dallimore
Headteacher