

Thursday 19th March 2020

School Closure - Coronavirus

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the government's advice yesterday, it is with regret that we have to inform you that the school will be closing at 3pm on Friday 20th March, until the government communicates that we are in the position to reopen.

The school will be able to open for a small number of students, outlined in the government's announcement yesterday. We have communicated with the parents of most students for whom we could continue to provide a daily educational experience in school. We are also open to the children of what the government considers 'key workers' (NHS, police, teachers, etc). The government will release a list of who they consider key workers later today and we will publish that on the school website. Should you consider yourself to be a key worker, and require your child to be in school, then please contact us either through email or telephone to organise this.

This basic provision is dependent on the capacity of the college to keep their building open safely and may change should the use of the building become unsustainable.

For all other students schooling will continue at home.

It is expected that all students will continue to engage with their courses. The primary means of communication between students and teachers will be through school email. I have attached with this letter a sheet explaining to students how to access their school email from home. Work is expected to be completed in a timely manner and returned to teachers where appropriate.

For students who do not have a computer or internet provision at home, we will be sending out work packs. We have surveyed students to ensure we have a good picture of who will need physical work packs, but if you would prefer your child received a work pack, please let us know and we will arrange it.

A further announcement yesterday was that this season's exams will not go ahead. This is of course hugely disappointing for our students who have been working incredibly hard to secure good grades this summer.

The government has not yet announced how students will be graded, however 'Ofqual' have made it clear that there will be a fair and equitable allocation of awards and they will communicate this once a decision has been made.

With this letter, I have attached a number of sheets that I need you to give to your child. They include:

- Details on how to access their school email from home
- How to access additional resources to support them in their study
- Details on how they should raise concerns should they feel vulnerable

We realise that this is an extremely unsettled time and acknowledge that many of you will have some real concerns over health and work. Should we be able to help and support you during this time please contact us either through email or through the telephone numbers provided.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Collishaw

(Deputy Headteacher)