



18 March 2020

Coronavirus – Partial School Closure, Years 8, 9, 10 and 13

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been monitoring the impact of Coronavirus on the staffing situation. Today I have reached the conclusion that, as a result of widespread staff absence due to illness and self-isolation, I can no longer safely keep the school open to all students.

The government guidance regarding self-isolation has had a significant effect on the number of staff that will be able to attend school for at least the next 14 days and potentially longer. The government have not directed schools to close and we are therefore trying our best to remain open.

As a result, Year 7 as our youngest year group and Year 11 students will be prioritised in order to support student wellbeing and preparation for forthcoming external examinations. Students in Year 7 and 11 should, therefore attend school as normal in full school uniform, ensuring they bring all the required resources for their timetabled lessons.

These arrangements will be reviewed daily, and if it is necessary to alter them, we will give you as much notice as we are able to via text, messages via the app, email and our website.

Please encourage your child to make every effort with their studies, whether at home or at school. I have enclosed information on how to access work for various subjects for all year groups.

The number of hours we recommend for each subject is as follows:-

Subject	Hours per week - Year 7	Hours per week - Year 8
English	4	4
Maths	4	4
Science	4	4
Art	2	1
Careers	2	
Computing	2	1
Drama	2	1
DT	2	2
French	2	1
Food	2	2
Geography	4	1
History	4	1
Media	2	
Music	2	1
PSHE	2	1
RE	2	2

Subject	Hours per week Year 9	Hours per week Year 10	Hours per week Year 11
English	4	4	4
Maths	4	4	4
Science	4	4	4
Option 1	3	3	3
Option 2	3	3	3
Option 3	3	3	3
Option 4	3	3	3

Please note, if your child still wishes to come to school for their lunch this facility will still be available on Thursday 19th March and Friday 20th March. Students from closed year groups can come to school for lunch between 12 and 1:30pm.

If you are unsure whether to send your child to school, please follow the government advice and make the decision as a parent whether or not to send your child in. If they are going to be absent, please ensure you contact school on 01484 382140 and include a reason for their absence.

This is a challenging and stressful time for all, and I am very aware of the impact that partially closing the school has on families, so please be assured this is not a decision I have taken lightly.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Michael Kent
Principal