

20th March 2020

Dear Families

I find it quite a challenge to write this to you all as I never thought I would be closing the school gates and not know when we will be opening them again.

To reassure you all, we might not all be physically here but we can be contacted by phone, email, SMHK and social media. Please familiarise yourselves with our support email addresses I sent earlier in the week and if you do get withheld numbers on your phone please answer as it may be school trying to contact you.

Work will be being set every day according to our timetables. Staff will also be posting extra quizzes, competitions and work through various platforms. Your child and their teachers can be in contact via SMHW.

I strongly recommend a regular routine every day, following our suggested timetable. Our website has many suggested educational programmes which you could use to break up the day. As time goes on we will post suggested daily routines for Years 7-11 to help you plan your days.

A message for families whose children are in on Monday for childcare: if your child is ill or you are in self isolation please let us know by 8:30 each day on 01282 682300. Please also ensure someone is contactable in case your child becomes ill. The school bus will not be running but tickets are valid on any mainline bus.

Parents of year 11, I know you will all be concerned about how things will progress in terms of examinations and grades. We know for sure that there will be no summer examinations. There will be a definitive answer later today about what the implications of this will be. I will update you all on Monday about this. Again, rest assured that we will support through any eventuality. We are providing work for year 11 and will continue to do so once we know what will be best.

Students and families will be hugely upset about prom and leavers assembly. We will run events for year 11 in the autumn. No matter how long this goes on year 11 will still be our students and we will continue to support you all.

It is vital we follow government guidelines at this time and ensure no young people are out socialising or at each other's houses from now on. Exercise outdoors will be needed for everyone but should only be with people from the same house and cannot be playing with friends in parks etc.

We all know the coming weeks and months will be challenging but if we all work together to do the right thing we will get through it in the best way possible.

Please check our website and Twitter regularly but rest assured we will still send you updates via email. We are here to support if you need us, so get in touch. Look after each other and take very good care.

Yours sincerely



Ruth England
Headteacher