18th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Coronavirus / Covid-19 update**

As you will be aware, the government have increased measures aimed at slowing the spread of Covid-19 across the population. This includes advice that certain vulnerable groups of adults should minimise social contact for up to 12 weeks.

We have a number of staff who fit into the newly defined vulnerable groups who we feel should not be working in school until told otherwise. In addition, a number of staff have partners or children who are not well or are not feeling well themselves and are therefore not in school.

Having reviewed the likely position for the next few days, we anticipate that things will either remain the same or get worse. This means we are not able to deliver a full curriculum to all pupils.

We have, therefore, decided that **Year 12 will work from home** on **Thursday and Friday** of this week. We plan for them to **return to school** and lessons on **Monday 23rd March.**

**We have also decided that Years 8 and 9 will work from home for the week commencing Monday 23rd March.** Pupils should check Show My Homework where work will be set and complete this as instructed. It would be very helpful if parents can monitor this work on a daily basis. A decision about arrangements for the week commencing 30th March will be made by Thursday 26th March.

I remain concerned about the possibility of more widespread and longer school closure and therefore we will be **closing at 2pm on Friday 20th March** to enable further staff training on web based distance learning. Your son or daughter will also be given important log-in details on Friday morning to enable them to access Google classroom materials in the future. These have already been provided to Year 12.

I understand that any closure is difficult but staff are working hard to ensure that we can provide the best possible education for all pupils in difficult circumstances.

**Pupil Attendance**

Please Do NOT send your child to school if they show symptoms of Covid-19. This includes a persistent cough or fever. See PHE for more information on the symptoms if you are in doubt at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

If you have notified us that you are isolating for 7 days you do not need to contact us again until the 7th day.

**Examinations**

The position here is unknown. For now, the guidance is that they are running as normal, however I realise there is significant concern that they may be postponed or cancelled. We await further guidance from both Ofqual and the DfE on examinations and for now, are planning to deliver the full range of public GCSE and A-level examinations as scheduled.

I will continue to update parents as soon as further information becomes available.

Yours sincerely



Mr P A Ramsey

Headteacher

**Pupil attendance**