



19 March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Latest Update

As you will be aware, yesterday evening the Government announced the following:

- At end of school on Friday, schools will shut until further notice for all pupils other than the following, for whom the school will remain open:
 - The children of key workers
 - The most vulnerable children i.e. those with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and those with care workers
- No exams or assessments will take place this summer. The government intends to work with the sector and Ofqual to ensure “children get the qualifications they need”.

Children with parents or carers who are key workers

As things stand, the Government has identified NHS staff, police and delivery drivers as examples of key workers. A full list of key worker categories is due to be published by the Cabinet Office today but is not yet available. When this is provided, I shall write to you to find out which children this applies to and whether or not parents/carers intend them to come into school. We will need this information to plan the necessary staffing and catering provision.

Children with EHCPs and/or care workers

We will contact parents and carers tomorrow to find out whether you intend for your child to be in school. Again, this is so we can ensure appropriate provision.

Parents and carers of children entitled to free school meals

A separate letter will be sent to you tomorrow outlining arrangements for the continued provision of free school meals, regardless of whether your child is in school or at home.

Parents and carers of young people with SATs this year

It is, to say the least, disappointing for those due to sit the tests in May, having worked so hard to this point, that they are now no longer able to do this. We will speak to the children in assembly about this tomorrow and will explain that their efforts have not been in vain. The key thing is that they continue to build upon the great position that they have got themselves to. To this end, we will be encouraging them to keep on track with their learning using the guidance sent by Mr Watters yesterday.

Parents and carers of children with online access to learning resources

Please refer to the guidance sent by Mr Watters yesterday.

Parents and carers of children without online access to learning resources

We are putting in place arrangements to get hard copies of resources to you and will contact you directly about this.

Parents and carers of children in Year 8

As things become clearer, I will write to you again regarding progression into Year 9. It is a long way off, but for now I want you to know that we will give specific thought to necessary transition arrangements at the appropriate time.

As mentioned earlier, I shall write to you again as soon as clarity around key worker categories becomes available. In the meantime, thank you as always for your continued support at this challenging time.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Atkins', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr G Atkins
Executive Headteacher