



HEADTEACHER:

Ms K. Littleddyke | BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

17 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, we are dealing with an ever-shifting landscape with regards to the impact of Coronavirus. Currently, as you know, those with symptoms or with family members with symptoms have been asked to self-isolate for 14 days. Clearly this has had an impact on our staffing and we need to take steps to try to keep our community safe.

Although we have not yet been directed to reduce large gatherings, all assemblies are cancelled with immediate effect as are trips and sporting fixtures. In order to reduce the numbers of students in the canteen and main hall at break times, the canteen will only serve the hot food, with all of the 'grab-and-go' options being available from other venues (the baguette bar, the main hall, and our two outdoor pods). Ten additional classrooms will also be opened, so that if students prefer not to congregate in busy areas, they will be able to sit in smaller groups.

I have taken the decision to spread the impact of staff absence across the year groups. I am very mindful that public exams are pending for Years 11 and 13, but also of the child-care implications if the school were to close for our Year 7 pupils. With this in mind, the current strategy is in place for the rest of this week, although the picture may change again with further Government announcements and if staff absence increases.

Today, Sixth Form lessons have been suspended in order to free up staff to cover Key Stage 3 and 4 lessons. For the rest of the week, I am asking one year group to stay at home for one day: Year 10 on Wednesday, Year 9 on Thursday and Year 8 on Friday. Staff will use 'Show My Homework' to set work, and, in addition, we have created a new area on our website called 'Home Learning' (search in the 'Students' tab) with links to a range of on-line resources. Please contact Matt Oakes if your child does not have internet access and we will arrange for alternative work to be sent home with your child.

I am sorry that I am unable to let you know the strategy for next week at this time, but please rest assured that we are doing everything we can to keep the children safe and healthy and to minimise the disruption to their learning at this time.

With kind regards



Ms K Littleddyke
Headteacher

