

23 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Students working at home

I am writing to confirm arrangements for the work your children will be expected to complete during school closure. Last week teachers explained to students how they will access the work and what is required.

In order to provide work the school will be using a number of online platforms either to communicate the work or to complete it. Instructions about the work will be communicated via Class Charts. Students were reissued with their Class Charts login code last week but if either they or you do not have the login then please contact school. There is a Class Charts guide for parents attached if you need it.

I have attached an outline for how each department will provide for Year 12, Year 10 and Key Stage 3. I know you will understand that until last Thursday, teachers' highest priority was to ensure that our Year 11 and year 13 students were supported before their examinations (which as you know will now not take place) and so most time and effort had been spent on preparing work for them. Teachers had prepared work for other year groups but we will continue to update the work where needed. Much work has been done in a very short space of time so please be patient if there are teething problems.

Some subjects gave students packs of work to take home last week. We will send out this work to students who may have been absent last week.

Some of the work your children will be set, such as Hegarty Maths is automatically marked online. Over time teachers will endeavour to assess other work (with priority given to Year 10 and Year 12 students). I'm sure that you will understand that under the current circumstances and also with potential illness in staff, we cannot guarantee this for all students in all subjects.

Students with limited ICT access

We have identified students who may not have full ICT access while at home. Packs of work have been put together and will be posted home for those students.

Routines

It will be very important that your children have as much of a daily routine as possible while not in school. I would strongly recommend that they try to follow their daily timetable to get a balance of subjects across the week, rather than for example spending the whole day on one subject. I would also recommend that in most cases they spend no longer than 45 minutes at a time on school work before having a break.

Free school meals

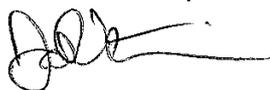
We have contacted the families of all students who receive free school meals with details of how we will provide support. If your child is eligible for free school meals and you did not receive that Parentmail message, please contact school.

School Website

There is now a Coronavirus section on the school website devoted to letters, information and resources, which will be updated regularly.

I know that this is a very uncertain time for us all, and that ensuring your children continue to access their learning at home will at times be challenging. We will continue to communicate with you regularly but please contact school if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Watson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr D Watson
Headteacher