



RH/SF

16 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Coronavirus Update

I am sure you are following the news on the spread of the virus and now that we know we have confirmed cases in the East Riding it is even more important that we are all taking steps to reduce the chances of it spreading locally. To this end I have taken the decision to cancel the Year 8 Parent's Evening scheduled for Thursday 19 March, but have brought forward the Year 11 Parent Information Evening from Tuesday 24 to 19 March.

Despite the current government position that schools are remaining open it is clear from events in other countries that school closure is likely at some point and this may well happen before the Easter break. Staff have been considering this now for the past two weeks and planning how they will keep students learning remotely. We will use the E-Praise system to set work for any students who are self-isolation or in the event of school closure. All students know how to access E-Praise, if you do not have a parent login please contact the school and we can help you set that up.

Our priority during any closure will be to support Year 11 students with preparation for their GCSEs as we believe it is still likely exams will go ahead even if schools close for a period beforehand. To that end we have brought forward the Year 11 information Evening to Thursday 19 March at 6.00 pm, staff will share key resources for revision at home and we will do our best to answer any questions.

The advice on self-isolation has now changed and any student who has either a high temperature or a persistent cough should self-isolate for 7 days. In this eventuality, please contact the school in the usual way to report the absence and inform us that they are self-isolating. At present the advice is that siblings can attend as normal but I am expecting that advice to change later this week and we will support parents who decide to keep other children at home in case that have also been infected.

I also appreciate we have a number of students with health conditions that make them more vulnerable and we will authorise any period of absence that parents feel is appropriate. Work will be made available via E-Praise for students who are off school and self-isolating.

As a school, we are following the latest government advice available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Respect | Honesty | Compassion | Resilience | Industry | Courage



The Market Weighton School

Expect More - Achieve More



Spring Road, Market Weighton, East Riding of Yorkshire, YO43 3JF Tel: 01430 873450 E-mail: office@tmws.co.uk
Headteacher Mr R Harrison Website: www.tmws.co.uk

We will be speaking to students in assemblies throughout this week and stressing the importance of measures to reduce the spread of the virus and trying to answer their questions about what might happen in the coming weeks. Please re-enforce these messages at home and discuss the situation, as many children will be concerned and possibly worried.

If we do close, it is likely we will receive little notice and we will all find out from the media at the same time. I will write again should we find ourselves in that position with more details on how we will support students with their learning.

In the meantime, please contact the school with any concerns. On a positive note, at present we do not have any confirmed cases in our community and if we all continue to wash hands and clean surfaces regularly and thoroughly the school remains a safe place to be. However as you know, this is proving to be a fast moving situation and I thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Mr R Harrison
Headteacher

Respect | Honesty | Compassion | Resilience | Industry | Courage

