



RH/SF

24 March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

It is not yet a week since the Prime Minister announced school closures and the cancellation of GCSE exams but things continue to move quickly. I hope you are all staying safe and following the guidelines on social distancing, as this will help make sure you can keep virus free.

We remain open for the small number of children of key workers and those that are vulnerable and have implemented a stringent social distancing policy in the building. We have updated the website with information on this and what to do if you need this provision.

We were pleased that many of you who initially thought you may need this provision have found alternatives as it has allowed us to reduce the number of staff needed in school. We have closed the canteen as from today, so any students coming into school will need to bring a packed lunch.

Mr Poulston has set up a voucher scheme for all free school meal students where parents will receive a weekly voucher equivalent to the daily rate of £2:30 per day to spend in a supermarket of your choice. If you have not had a call about this or have had problems receiving the voucher please e-mail Mr Poulston jpoulston@tmws.co.uk or message him on E-Praise.

It seems the first day of home learning got off to a great start with almost all Year 10 students accessing E-Praise and Google classroom, similarly high numbers were accessing in the other years. It will be vital that a routine is maintained around completing work and advice on this is also available on the website. Staff will continue to set work and communicate with students via E-Praise whilst they work from home. Please get in touch if you have any questions. Our support staff are making weekly calls to their key students to check in and offer support. We believe we may be closed for several months so it will be vital that this process works well to support student learning.

We have set up a drop off and collection system inside the main entrance that can be accessed without entering the school building. In light of the lockdown arrangements announced last night this should only be used by individuals if absolutely necessary. There is a supply of exercise books, resources issued by the English department and **free sanitary products** for any that need them.

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We will continue to do all we can to support you and your child in these difficult times. I will aim to keep you regularly updated throughout and ask that you do the same. I am not aware of any confirmed cases of COVID-19 within our school community but it is now clearly more widespread and we all need to observe the government directives to stay at home unless absolutely necessary.

Many staff are now self-isolating to protect themselves and their families and I appreciate many of you are doing the same. If you find you need support, our pastoral and safeguarding team are available on-line and we have placed a range of materials on the website explaining how other services can be accessed. We may not have the students in school, but we are still here to support you.

Best wishes

R Harrison

Richard Harrison
Headteacher

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