



ALL SAINTS RC SCHOOL

Diocese of Middlesbrough
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Our Ref SKE/SWO

19 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Coronavirus update - National school closures

Following on from our last letter, we are now writing to let you know that we have been instructed to close the school for the majority of students from 3:25pm on Friday 20 March until further notice.

These announcements have, understandably, caused a great deal of uncertainty for us all and we understand the anxiety that this will be causing along with the unanswered question you will have.

No doubt, many of your questions will relate to GCSE and A Level exams as well as the plans for how school will operate from Monday 23 March.

We have spoken to all Year 11 and Year 13 students today to support and reassure them at this crucial time in their lives. Our message to them and to you as parents is that we will do all we can to guarantee that their progression to their desired careers or education paths is unhindered by these unique circumstances. This is also the position being adopted by the exam boards. AQA published the following statement earlier today,

"I want you to know that, over the coming months, we'll be working tirelessly with schools, regulators and government to make sure young people who were due to take AQA exams this summer still achieve the qualifications they need to progress to the next stage of their lives - and that all the hard work students and teachers have already put in is properly rewarded"

We are committed to ensuring that the school remains open for the children of 'key workers' as well as our most vulnerable students and those with additional needs. Unfortunately we are unable to offer any further details or clarification about these arrangements at this moment in time. We will update you once we receive further guidance about the specific occupations that will be classed as 'key workers' and the proposed structure under which schools will be expected to function from Monday 23 March.



Compassion



Truth



Respect



Forgiveness



Justice



Service



Gentleness



Humility



Stewardship

To help us prepare for the coming weeks we will be emailing an electronic form to all parents in the morning. Please complete and return the form at your earliest convenience.

We will also be making further arrangements for our students who usually receive free school meals. These arrangements will be in place from Monday and will continue throughout the duration of the school closure.

Once these details begin to emerge we will ensure that you and our students are kept up-to-date with the latest developments as an absolute priority.

For those students who will be required to work at home from Monday 23 March I would like to remind you of the plan that was sent out last week outlining expectations for each year group. Our staff are currently working as quickly as they can to get our online resources up and running for all year groups in advance of the publicised school closures on Monday.

As we prepare for next week we are striving to make sure today and tomorrow are as close to normal working days for all staff and students who are able to be in school. Encouragingly, we have had over 80% attendance amongst our student body today. This does though mean that our staff are unable to respond to personal requests for work or clarification about the current circumstances. We would politely request that parents and carers refrain from phoning school with individual queries and only do so in emergency circumstances, as you would on a typical school day.

If you do wish to get in touch, please do so via the school email address and we will make every effort to respond as soon as is practically possible.

The challenges we are currently facing are unprecedented in their scale and their changing nature. As always the health and wellbeing of our students and staff remains our first priority and we will continue to do everything we can to protect them by following the guidance from Public Health England.

Thank you once again for your continued support, patience and understanding. Our thoughts and prayers are with all members of our school community at this very worrying time for everyone.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs S.L Keelan-Beardsley
HEADTEACHER