

Dear all Parents/Carers

As a school, we always look forward to seeing your children on site and providing them with the outstanding education they deserve. However, since the announcement from Boris Johnson and the further announcements from Gavin Williamson, inviting all pupils back into the building is currently not possible.

You will be aware that, over the last week, there have been significant changes in the country's approach to tackling Covid-19. One of these changes has seen the partial closure of schools to all except vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers. [Click here to view the critical worker list.](#) This is a situation nobody wanted but, as a school, we are determined to work with families and partners to navigate our way through this turbulent time and ensure that your child's education continues.

I can assure you that as a school we are working tirelessly to ensure we can provide the education and support your child will need to allow them to continue their studies. Our staff will be on site as normal, with the reduced numbers of pupils in classrooms which will allow our staff to work safely and in accordance with social distancing measures. This will also allow them to plan, prepare and deliver their Microsoft Teams lessons in an environment conducive to high quality learning for all.

Further detailed information regarding your child's home learning provision and our developing offer will follow the week commencing the 11 January. Currently, your child is expected to continue their normal school day and follow their timetable online. They will be able to access lessons with their current members of staff through Microsoft Teams, these lessons are interactive and the pupils will be able to seek the advice and guidance from the member staff present regarding their learning.

It is important to note that, as a school, we will be continuing to teach the same syllabus in each subject and continue your child's learning journey. To support families, the school support teams will be in regular contact with Parents/Carers and pupils to offer guidance during this period.

Year 11 GCSE and Level 2 qualification

Following the announcement from the Education Secretary Gavin Williamson earlier this week, you may already be aware that Year 11 pupils will not sit the end of year examinations in the summer term as originally anticipated. The assessment of the Year 11 pupils will be through teacher assessed grades. The details of which will follow when further guidance is issued from the Department of Education. At this point, I must stress that our Year 11 pupils have worked exceptionally well in Term 1 and their continued engagement with their home learning packages will be an essential part of their continued learning journey. The work that is completed from now until the end of the academic year will play a large role in the allocation of Centre assessed grades and should therefore be taken very seriously.

If you have any further queries regarding your child's education please do not hesitate to contact the school through the usual channels.

Finally, I wish everyone good health and happiness and hopefully, look forward to an improving picture for all in the coming weeks.

Kind regards

Mat Williams, Head of School