

18 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus (COVID-19): 'Sixth form update'

I want to reassure you that the school is doing everything we can to support your child during this difficult period. Please make sure you have read the letter from the Headteacher detailing how we are supporting students, parents and the local community. We remain committed to providing them with the best preparation possible for their upcoming exams. However, in order to do this we have introduced the following emergency measures which will be in place until further notice.

Firstly, students are not required to attend school for their supervised independent study sessions. On the mornings when students have independent study they should remain at home and study. There is no need for them to register with their tutors on these mornings. Students who have extra study sessions for specific subjects such as Art and DT should continue to attend these sessions.

Secondly, students have been advised to minimise their social interactions within school. This means that students will no longer be expected to meet in large group settings such as assemblies. Also, students have been advised to avoid congregating in the sixth form study room at break and lunchtimes in order to avoid over-crowding this area. Furthermore, the study room will be closed after school from 3pm onwards.

Thirdly, students are expected to leave school promptly at the end of their timetabled lessons unless they have a specific reason to stay such as attending intervention with a teacher. Unfortunately, extra-curricular activities such as sporting activities have been cancelled due to lack of staff.

Fourthly, in the event of the school being forced to close, students have been tasked with accessing Canvas – our virtual learning environment through which students will access resources - and sending their tutors an email before they return to school on Thursday. This 'checking exercise' will help us test how prepared students are and allow us to further support students where necessary.

Lastly, I expect there to be lots of change over the next few weeks in terms of advice from the Government, exam boards and Universities. Therefore, I will be producing a weekly bulletin for students and parents with details of important information. This will be available via Canvas and MCAS.

This is a very difficult time for us all; please do not hesitate to contact me or other members of the Sixth Form team if you need to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Wright
Head of Sixth