



18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Secretary of State's Announcement**

It was announced this evening that schools will close at the end of the day on Friday. Whilst we were anticipating the announcement, some of its contents came as a surprise. The key points were:

1. Schools will close at the end of the day on Friday except for certain categories of children:
  - Vulnerable children (eg. those with an Education Care and Health Plan; those with a social worker).
  - Children of essential workers such as health, police, social care, delivery drivers.
2. Meals or vouchers will be provided for those in receipt of free school meals.
3. There are no exams in May and June.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS, AS YET, NO DETAIL ON HOW CHILDREN WILL BE ASSESSED, AND SO IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT STUDENTS CONTINUE TO STUDY AS NORMAL UNTIL WE HAVE MORE CLARITY.**

Clearly, this announcement raises many questions about how this works in practice. We anticipate receiving more detailed and specific guidance from the DfE imminently, and I will then write to you again. We need in particular to understand the precise intentions of the government in regard to those who are studying for summer tests and exams. In the meantime, all children should continue to attend for the remainder of this week in line with the recommendations made by Public Health England and previously published opening arrangements.

KCC is open tomorrow – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> for Years 7, 11 and 13. There is also a small group of Year 12 students who have been asked to attend where they were scheduled to have public exams.

As we await further clarification, I wanted to reassure you that we will make sure that we formulate plans that are in the best interests of our students, staff and communities. We will update you on progress again tomorrow.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

*Tina Graham*

**Tina Graham**  
**Principal**