

Dear Parents and Carers

It is with great regret that I am writing to inform you that the school will be closed for Foundation and Years 1, 2 and 3 in Primary and Years 7, 8 and 9 in Secondary with effect from tomorrow, **Thursday 19th March**. I stress that this is not because there have been any reported cases of Covid-19 amongst the pupils or staff. It is because we no longer have sufficient staff available to teach and ensure the safety of all of our children and young people. The government's guidelines on the circumstances in which people should self-isolate, including household self-isolation, has resulted in a number of teachers who are no longer able to work in the school giving rise to this situation.

Pupils will be informed during their final lesson today.

The year groups affected are F1-Y3 and Years 7-9. We have selected these groups in order to continue supporting classes for groups facing examinations this summer therefore we will be open only for **Years 4, 5, 6, 10 and 11**. We know that pupils are invested in their future success and we intend to support as best we can.

We have made arrangements to try and maintain the education of pupils whilst they are at home as best we can. Teachers will set and collect work using *Show My Homework* as a platform which both pupils and parents can access. Primary pupils will be provided with a pack of work to bring home. Please refer to this in order to support their remote learning.

For those pupils and staff who are attending school, we are continuing our precautions to prevent the spread of infection. This includes a revised cleaning regime, encouragement to wash hands frequently and use hand-gel, closure of the premises to external groups and termination of fixtures, trips and similar activities. Any pupil or member of staff who shows the symptoms identified by the government is advised to self-isolate.

I recognise these are difficult times for parents in all sorts of different ways. Updates will be emailed to you and posted on the school website. We will continue to do all we can to work with you throughout this rapidly developing situation in the best interests of our children.

Yours sincerely

Tina Graham.

Tina Graham
Principal