

19 March 2020

Dear Parents

Corona Virus update – School closure for most students

Following on from my last update, I am writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the school after this Friday, 20 March 2020, until further notice.

This means children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a National closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by email, text and through the School Website.

What the School will continue doing while your child is at home:

Your child's learning is of course very important to us, so we'll continue to help your child learn.

- Teachers will continue to set work and monitor student progress via *Google Classroom*. All students have access to this and a link to this and other resources are available via the *STUDENT LAUNCHPAD* link on our school website. Subject teachers will also be available, via email, during their normal timetabled lessons to offer any support or guidance that students require. In addition, students in Y7/8 will be given a work booklet to take home on Friday and this work should be returned to their *Learning Coach* for monitoring.
- Your child's *Learning Coach* will be making contact with your child each Monday via email to check how they are progressing with their work and support with any general issues. Please ensure your child responds to this email on Monday so we can continue to support them effectively.
- While subject teachers and Learning Coaches should be the first contact for any learning queries. We have also created some support email accounts to ensure the right teams can offer more general support where needed:
 - **Technical Support:** technical@ntc.kent.sch.uk - This is for general technical issues over access to any of our online services.
 - **Learning Support:** homelearning@ntc.kent.sch.uk - This is for general learning queries or to notify us that your child is unwell and, therefore, unable to complete their work.

If you cannot access email, please contact us on the normal school number and leave a message so that we can get back to you.

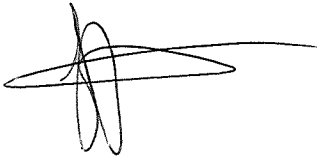
In regards to those in Y11 and Y13, we currently know that exams have been cancelled in the summer period, but are awaiting confirmation on how students will be awarded grades. We will update you as soon as we have more information. In the meantime, Y11 and Y13 must ensure that all coursework is completed to the best of their ability and they should continue to prepare for assessments.

Tomorrow, we will be holding assemblies with all students to make sure they are clear about home learning and access to online support.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it is far from ideal, but we will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Everyone at school wishes you and your family good health during this time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jane Partridge
Headteacher