

19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: COVID-19 UPDATE – SCHOOL CLOSURE TO MOST PUPILS FROM END OF DAY, FRIDAY, 20 MARCH 2020

Following on from my update yesterday, I am now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (eg NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with identified needs.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories. In order for us to ensure we have the appropriate staffing and provision in school please email keyworker@fairfax.bham.sch.uk with your child's name, year group and your occupation if you will be continuing to send your child into school during the period of closure. Please notify us by 10am Friday, 20 March so that accurate registers can be created for Monday morning. We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure who the government consider 'key workers'.

All other 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 via email, PS Connect and our social media channels.

What we will continue doing while your child is at home

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

Students will be set work on Show My Homework and should be completing school work set during school hours wherever possible from home. If needed, students will be able to access Show My Homework without log-in by searching the school and the teacher.

Year 11 and 13 students remain in compulsory education and as such should complete the work set on show my homework. Year 7 and 8 students should all access Bedrock Literacy regularly and all students have access to MyMaths.

During the school closure if students have a query about their classwork they can contact the teacher via Show My Homework. Teachers will check messages daily provided they are well. Students can also email classwork@fairfax.bham.sch.uk.

In the event of high levels of staff illness, additional classwork can be found at <http://www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/curriculum/home-study/>

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

Examinations

As you will know, all public examinations in May and June have been cancelled, including GCSEs and A-levels.

Clearly, this is a difficult time for all of the young people affected and their families.

As we find out more information over the coming days and weeks, we will share that with you and work in partnership to deliver the best outcomes for all our young people

This is all the information we have at this time 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's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us via post@fairfax.bham.sch.uk

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Yours sincerely



MRS D J BUNN
Head of Academy