



EL/td/170320

17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Partial Closure: Closed to Years 9 & 10 Wednesday March 18

As a result of staff absence, I have taken the decision to partially close the school by closing to Year 9 and Year 10 students on Wednesday March 18th. We will be reviewing arrangements daily. As things stand, we will be prioritising remaining open for exam groups in Yrs 11 and 13 and our youngest students in Yr 7. While we are able to accommodate other year groups, we will seek to rotate so that each year group has an opportunity to be in school during the course of the week.

Free School Meals

I appreciate that a number of students who will be off school tomorrow are entitled to a free school meal. Working with Chartwells, our catering provider, we will be able to offer a free meal pick-up service between 12.30 - 1pm. tomorrow for students in years 9 and 10 who are entitled.

Work for Students

As part of our contingency planning we are preparing online resources and work packs for students to complete at home. Details will be issued to students via their school email addresses and we will also be posting further details on the website. For students who cannot access work via the internet, work packs will be available from School Reception

COVID-19 Information Update (as issued March 16th)

As of Monday 16th March, the Government has provided us with the following advice:

- If anyone in your household has either a continuous cough OR a high temperature, the whole household should self-isolate for 14 days, limiting your social contact.
- To stop non-essential travel and contact with others, avoiding all unnecessary social contact, all those people that can work at home should do so.
- By this weekend, anyone with a serious health condition should be protected from social contact for about 12 weeks.

The situation at Colmers

- We have had a number of staff and students self-isolate, either after calling 111 or due to a vulnerable family member self-isolating and the student not wanting to put that person at risk.
- It is not possible to know at this time if staff or students displaying symptoms are suffering with COVID-19.
- From today, we have an increase in staff absence as a result of government advice on social distancing for vulnerable people. If you have symptoms, please contact 111 for advice before coming to school.
- If you live with a vulnerable person who is self-isolating, please think carefully before coming to school as you may bring germs back into that area of self-isolation, putting that person at undue risk.
- If any family is in doubt about a student coming to school, they should visit the NHS website or call 111. The general advice is they should self-isolate for 14 days if they have a new continuous cough OR a high temperature (37.8 degrees or above).

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging circumstances.

Best wishes,

Emma Leaman

Emma Leaman
Headteacher