



# Tomlinscote School

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I thought I should provide a daily update, so you know the latest position at school. The students have been brilliant today and demonstrated great calmness. We are trying to keep life as normal as possible and ensure 'learning' happens as usual. For example, Year 11 students completed a mock exam today in Maths and several students had their GCSE Drama practicals. Tomorrow, we have the BTEC Creative Media exam for Year 11 and a UKMT Maths test for a small group.

As it stands this afternoon, I am expecting **Years 8, 9 and 11** in school tomorrow. **Years 7 and 10** will work at home.

On Friday, I will expect **Years 7, 10 and 11** in school with **Years 8 and 9** at home. We will alternate year groups with Year 11 as the constant year group in school. Year 11 will have another mock with the same arrangements on Friday morning.

I will provide an update tomorrow to confirm Friday's details but, as you are aware, the situation is constantly evolving. If you currently work in the NHS and other key public services and require your son/daughter to attend school (irrespective of the year group), please send them into school as normal. They must report to reception first thing in the morning and we will prepare work for them.

As a result of closing the school yesterday, I took recommended precautions with the kitchen and Bee Hive and had them cleaned. Students are able to use the Bee Hive seating area before, during and after school. Until further notice, I would like students to bring packed lunches into school and we will ensure that students receiving Free School Meals will have food provided.

I understand the concerns from parents at the moment and in order to put people's mind at ease – if any parent requires their child to self-isolate at home, that is perfectly understandable, and this will be treated as an authorised absence. It is always the parent's decision in such circumstances to keep a child at home because the school cannot make those medical decisions.

To provide support for parents and students, I will send home a separate document outlining our resources whilst they learn at home. We have made available a wide range of resources and will follow the normal lesson structure of the day for setting work. The most important method of sharing work is through Google Classroom which students already use daily.

In conclusion, I would like to publically praise my staff for the support they are providing for the whole school community.

I look forward to seeing Years 8, 9 and 11 in school tomorrow. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Major  
Principal