

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, the Government updated advice in respect of Covid-19. In light of this I would like to communicate the following to you. I would ask that you read this important information carefully.

### **Government Advice**

Schools remain open but if one person in any household starts to display symptoms, **everyone living at that house must stay at home for 14 days.**

Therefore, if your child or anyone in your household has one or two symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), your child **must not** attend school and should **stay at home for 14 days** along with other members of the household. Please use the absence line, ParentMail or email [admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) to report your child's absence. We need you to state that your child is self-isolating so we do not contact you on a daily basis.

Symptoms are:

- new continuous cough (e.g. dry and persistent, a continuous cough that does not stop throughout the day) and/or
- a high temperature

If students have underlying health issues that put them at risk they too should stay at home.

If a student feels unwell at school, or a child is displaying the symptoms above, we will contact you to collect your child.

### **School Work, Remote Learning and Pastoral Support**

Students and families are requesting that work be sent home to students who are not in school. Our position on this at the moment is that absent students should try to catch up in the normal way. This is usually via electronic communication with friends.

Teachers cannot send home individual work plans to students who are absent. Their priority is to teach their classes and prepare work for all students in the event of school closure. The examination classes in Year 11, 12 and 13 are the highest priority.

The school will not close unless we are directed to do so by official bodies. However, partial closure may be necessary if we do not have an adequate number of staff to supervise students. In the event of partial closure, the school will be closed to students in the following order:

1. KS3 (Years 7,8,and 9)
2. Years 10 and 12
3. Years 11 and 13

Students would then be contacted by their teachers with a variety of work they can be getting on with at home.

We also have contingency arrangements in place to support and communicate with students from a pastoral perspective. These will be communicated to you and the students at the time of closure. This includes contact with the school nurse and pastoral leaders as necessary. Telephone contact numbers will be given in due course.

### **Public Examinations**

We are expecting further guidance from OFQUAL about the public examinations and will update you when this is available.

### **Day to Day Action and School Life**

To minimise the risk to our students, families and staff we are implementing the following:

- Students and staff are being regularly reminded to follow the hygiene guidelines
- Cleaning routines have been increased across the school and soap dispensers are being regularly refilled
- All meetings this term with parents have been cancelled.
- The Air Ambulance and Spring concert have been postponed.
- All trips this term including the trip to Belgium have been cancelled.
- Assemblies have been restricted to one year group at a time
- Social distancing: everyone is being advised to be sensible about how they meet and gather together and where possible keep two metres away from one another
- The KPS Spring Raffle has been suspended - further information to follow

These are unprecedented times but for as long as possible, school life will carry on as normal. We will do all we can in school to reassure students and maintain a calm learning and safe environment.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and understanding at this very difficult time.