

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

With reluctance I have had to take the decision that school will be closed for Years 8 and 9 on Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday March 20<sup>th</sup>. I will keep you posted on further developments as we go through the week and would ask you to regularly check emails and the school website.

The partial closure of a school is not an easy decision but the current situation with guidance around coronavirus means that we will not have sufficient staff to open to all years. We decided that we needed to prioritise Year 10 and 11 in school as the main examination years and also Year 7 as the youngest students for whom it might be more challenging to arrange child care.

Students in Years 8 and 9 are expected to complete the work that staff will post on Show My Homework for each lesson missed and they should do a full school day's work. Workbooks will be provided for those students who do not have home access to a computer or internet.

Heads Of Year/Mentors will still be available by email or phone if there are any pressing matters you need to discuss with them but it may take a little longer to get back to you than normal as staff are engaged in additional responsibilities and teaching to cover absent colleagues.

If the Government's advice for people in 'at risk' groups to stay in isolation become reality at the weekend then the situation will only deteriorate and we may have to take further measures.

These are difficult times for everyone and I can only ask for your patience and understanding.

Regards  
Andrew Waller

Headteacher