**School closure - Coronavirus – Delay phase**

A coronavirus is a type of virus. As a group, coronaviruses are common across the world. Typical symptoms of coronavirus include fever and a cough that may progress to a severe pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. The incubation period is between 2 and 14 days – if a person remains well for 14 days after contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus, this means they have not been infected.

Coronavirus is likely to spread when there is close contact (within two metres or less) with an infected person. Currently, there is no good evidence to suggest that people who are not presenting symptoms are infectious to others.

The government will be closely monitoring the spread of the virus and taking action in the UK and abroad where necessary. The Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England (PHE) will publish updated data on coronavirus on [this page](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public) at 2pm every day until further notice.

The government has entered the delay phase and has now advised schools across the country to shut to all accept the most vulnerable pupils and children of key workers. To support social distancing and halt the spread of Covid-19, **the advice states that “Every child who can be safely cared at home should be.”** For more details on the vulnerable pupils category and up to date government advice go to:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers#critical-workers

For the children falling into this category school will be open with heavily reduced staff between the hours of 10am and 2pm Monday to Friday.

To ensure that all our pupils continue to have access to education during this phase we have prepared:

* work packs to pupils
* a list of educational websites for each core subject
* a list of revision websites for Key Stage 4
* laptops to year 11 pupils who do not have access to ICT equipment at home
* enabled school emails for year 11
* past papers for exam revision
* A remote learning tab has been created on the home page on the School’s Website, here you can find learning materials and resources
* SLT email and contacts for families, these can also be found on the school website
* The school website will be updated regularly will information for parents / carers
* Staff key workers will contact homes on a weekly basis

Now that school has closed to the majority of pupils, the children's wellbeing and safety remains our priority. If you have any concerns or safeguarding issues whilst they are at home please email a member of SLT. Staff are available for any general queries. If you do not have access to email you can leave a voice mail on the school phone, this will be picked up by Andy Argile and Karon Trencher

**If you have a query about coronavirus (COVID-19), contact the DfE's helpline on 0800 046 8687 - lines are open Monday to Friday between 8am and 6pm (excluding bank holidays).**

**For NHS help and advice on Coronavirus visit:**

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/