



# Longdendale

H I G H S C H O O L

Dear Families,

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

I would like to begin by thanking our whole school community for their ongoing commitment, support and understanding during what has been a very challenging and unprecedented time for us all. Since Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, Longdendale High School has remained open on a daily basis to a very small number of learners in line with government guidance. We would like to thank all parents and carers for ensuring that wherever possible children remain at home in order to support the recommended social distancing measures to protect both learners, staff and the wider community.

With the Easter holidays almost upon us, we have taken time to speak with the families of those learners who have been accessing provision and have made the decision to close the school completely to all staff and learners during the first week of the Easter holidays. School will only be open for three days during the second week in line with the needs of a small number of key worker families. We recognise this is a difficult time for all families and a list of external support available to families can be found on the school's website by clicking on the pop up box.

We fully appreciate that some learners are finding it more challenging than others to access the work being provided for them by their teachers and in settling into a focused routine whilst at home. Thank you for your ongoing efforts and support with this – we also recognise that this is also a learning curve for all of us, including staff, and as such are certain that we will find increasingly effective ways of working as time goes on. It is important that the learners as well as staff take the opportunity for a rest and a break from school during the Easter holiday period, so teachers will not be setting work or providing feedback or responding to queries during this time. If you have any concerns regarding your child during the Easter holidays, please refer to the school website as above for where you can access support.

If your child is currently eligible for benefits related free school meals, then you should have received a text alert from us in order that we can process the term time only government supermarket voucher scheme. If you believe that you are entitled to this and have not received a text from us, please get in touch via the main school office or the school email address and we will ensure this is followed up as appropriate on our return on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

At the time of writing this, we still have no further updates with regard to the Year 11 awarding of GCSE grades. We will of course continue to monitor this and update all those concerned as soon as possible.

Unless the government takes further steps in relation to school closures, Longdendale High School will remain open to the children of key workers and those learners identified as vulnerable from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Families have already been contacted if their child qualifies for school provision. If you have previously been contacted and feel your child requires provision after the Easter holidays this must be pre-arranged with school and I would ask that parents liaise with Miss Rigby via email to [keyworkers@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk](mailto:keyworkers@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk) to arrange this provision.

Many thanks for your continued support and I wish you all a safe Easter break.

Yours sincerely

**Andrea Jones**  
Headteacher

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