



Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Thursday 19 March 2020 **INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL CLOSURE**

All members of the SWS family,

This is our third direct communication in relation to UK government moving to the delay phase of its plan to manage the coronavirus outbreak.

Events outside of our control continue to move very quickly and the school is doing everything it can to play its part in supporting our children, families and the wider community. Please read the information below carefully.

Following on from our last communication, I am now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday (20 March) until further notice.**

As advised by the UK government, **we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (NHS staff, police and others in frontline services) and children with certain identified needs.** The capacity to remain open will be reviewed daily.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23 March onwards.

Whilst we are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories. You may have been contacted about this already.

To do this, plus also gain other key information at this time, we are asking that **all families complete the following online form:**

<http://bit.ly/2xMyY9S>

A QR code (included at the bottom of this letter) is also available, should you wish to use it via a compatible smart phone.

We'll be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to and give further information as to arrangements.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when on all of our social media platforms.



What we'll continue doing while your child is at home

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn. The various measures we have already started to advise you of in recent days will continue and evolve and we'll keep you updated through our usual communication channels. Again, separate communications will follow that are specific to student work.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

REMINDER - Friday 20 March - Children in Year 7 and Year 11

Year 11 will remain on a **full day timetable for Friday 20 March**. A further communication will be sent to Year 11 over the coming days when arrangements for the award of GCSE and equivalent qualifications has been made clear to us from OFQUAL.

Year 7 children will continue with the current arrangements published yesterday: **School will run from 8.40am until 1.20pm**.

Free School Meals

Please read the separate letter sent earlier today if your child receives a free school meal. We will continue to monitor the situation at school and take guidance from UK government and Public Health England. As I have stated previously, we advise all members of the school community to regularly check emails and other communication platforms in the days and weeks ahead to make themselves aware of any updates.

These are unprecedented times for all of us and your support and understanding is important and is appreciated. Please contact the school if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Fraser', written over a horizontal line.

Jason Fraser
Principal

