

19 March 2020

Dear Parents

CLOSURE AND KEY WORKERS

As I am sure you are aware, the Government has announced that all schools in England are required to close on Friday for the foreseeable future, please accept this as notification therefore that we will adopt a guided home learning model from Monday 23rd March.

We have been working with Chatsworth Schools over the past month to plan for a scenario such as this. We will continue to brief both you and the children as regards what is required over the next two days to support our guided home learning model.

On Friday we will introduce the children to #Chatsworth IDEAS 2020. This is a five-day, project based competition which we are going to ask our children to partake in next week. The activity has been structured to provide an opportunity for the children to do something different, and slight 'off-piste', during what is clearly a concerning time for all. In the main it is 'off-line', although the children will need to access certain support resources on a phone/tablet or laptop.

Thereafter, the school will move to our guided home learning model. I will write to you with further details regarding this separately.

The Prime Minister has asked schools to make provision for the children of key workers. Although definitions are, as I write, not completely clear, I would ask you to make contact with me by **1pm today (Thursday 19th March)** if you would wish us to provide supervision in school for children adopting our guided learning model.

Please note Pattison College is open today and tomorrow and pupils should attend unless they fall into the category of unwell or self-isolating. It is very important that students take all their belongings home, including books and folders, PE kits, musical instruments etc. Please could you ensure your child(ren) brings an extra bag into school on Friday to facilitate this.

If your child(ren) is/are not coming back into school because of self-isolation, it will be necessary for you to arrange for his/her belongings to be collected from School by the end of School on Friday.

Quarantine rules still apply; if you or anyone in your household is currently in self-isolation, we ask that you arrange for someone else, who is not in self-isolation, to collect your child's belongings.

We now know that GCSE examinations will not be taking place as planned in May and June; students in Years 11 should continue to work with us as we complete courses and revise and we will update them and you when the government's plans for public examinations become clear.

These are exceptional circumstances but all our planning has been informed by a focus on continuing to support student progress and keeping a sense of our community. We know that this is a very difficult time and the students in the examination years are at the forefront of our thoughts in this uncertain situation; we will do everything in our power to support them all.

We will continue to do our very best to meet the needs of all your children, and I thank you all for the numerous messages of support and goodwill we have received.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JCP Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JCP Taylor FRSA
Headmaster