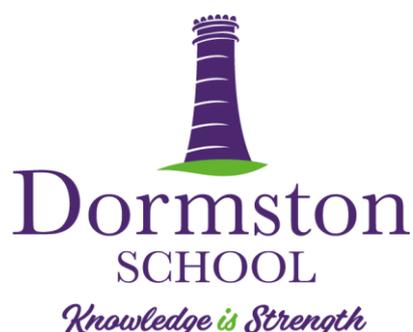


Our Ref: SDN/KON

17 March 2020

ALL PARENTS/CARERS



Dear Parents/Carers

Re: COVID-19 UPDATE - 17 MARCH 2020

I am writing to you this morning to update you on the school's current position with regards to COVID-19. As you know, the position is constantly changing and as a school and a community we will need to change how we operate to reflect this. I apologise in advance if this means that our advice and procedures change frequently over the coming days/weeks but we want to keep you informed as much as possible with regards to the situation. I am sure you will know that the Government's advice is changing daily and we are carefully following the advice given to us.

As you may be aware, the Government have asked that any households showing symptoms of a new cough or temperature must **ALL** self-isolate for **14 days** and any vulnerable groups must 'shield' themselves for the next 12 weeks. This has massive implications for us all and how we manage this as a school can create problems that we will work hard to overcome. We appreciate your co-operation and support during this difficult time and we will of course authorise all absence during this period.

As you know, the Government are still requesting that schools stay open and we will continue to follow this directive. However, if our staffing infrastructure becomes affected it is possible that we will have to move to either partial or full closure. Partial closure means that we will remain open for certain year groups in order to allow some students education to continue, providing we have the staffing structure to do so. The decision to move towards either of these stages will be shared with parents if this action becomes necessary.

We will unfortunately be cancelling the following events:

- **Year 9 Parents' Evening - Thursday 26 March 2020;**
- **Pizza Reward Evening - Tuesday 31 March 2020.**

Just a reminder that we have also cancelled tonight's Year 11 GCSE Evening and our Year 9 Options Evening on Thursday 19 March 2020.

Can I remind parents that we are not allowing admittance of visitors to the school at this time and your co-operation with complying with this is greatly appreciated.

Any child not in school should use their 'Knowledge Organisers' in order to work from home. These are available on our school website and there is a PowerPoint showing how to use them effectively. This can be found under Quick Links > School Update COVID 19.

Despite our best efforts to keep our revision sessions going these will be subject to staffing availability. We understand that this is a stressful time for all our parents and students, especially those in Year 11 facing their GCSEs or for those who have family members who are vulnerable. As a school community we will need to work together over the coming weeks and we will endeavour to keep you as informed as much as possible.

The learning and safety of your child continues to remain our top priority and as a school we will make sure we make the right decisions, at the right time, for the welfare of both the students, staff and parents of Dormston School.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Dixon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Mr S Dixon
Head Teacher