

Coronavirus Update – Forced School Closure

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, yesterday the Prime Minister announced the latest measures to be put in place as part of the continued phase to delay the COVID-19 outbreak. The government has now instructed schools that they **must close** 'to the vast majority of students' as a necessary measure to delay the outbreak. **This will take effect from Monday 23rd March 2020.**

Our continued and overwhelming priority is the health and wellbeing of everyone in our community and their families. We currently do not know the length of closure, as this will be decided by the government and Public Health England. We will inform you when we know of plans to reopen via the communication methods noted at the end of this letter.

Provision during School Closure

Children of Key Workers

As outlined in my letter yesterday we are completely prepared to accommodate any students whose parents and carers are 'key workers'. We are still waiting on clarification from the government as to who qualifies as a 'key worker' but if you think you might fall into this category then please contact us as soon as possible.

For safeguarding reasons, please can you be sure to contact the school either through phone, email or the app by **3pm on Friday 20th March 2020.**

Children with Education, Health, Care and Plans and/or with a social worker

All those children with allocated key workers will be provided for. Please contact school if you have not yet spoken to our SENCO, Mrs Downing or a member of our Mentor team

Students in receipt of Free School Meals

Students who receive free school meals are still entitled to these and they will be able to collect their lunches from **Halton Stadium reception between 11 and 12pm.**

We will continue to collect food and goods to distribute to members of the community who need it. Thank you to those who have contributed to the collections so far, the parcels have been very much appreciated.

Remote learning for students not in school

We have impressed upon all students the importance of continuing their studies at home so that they can continue to acquire knowledge and build on their current subject knowledge.

The staff have been working hard to ensure that all students will be fully equipped with work and we have put the following measures in place:

- Students and staff have been advised to follow their normal timetables where possible when working remotely.
- Students have been set up on Microsoft Class Notebooks which is a platform that enables teachers and students to interact by setting and viewing work remotely.
- Students were shown how to use this platform in their form groups on Wednesday and there is also a guide of how to use this on the college website <https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/5b91ae59-9014-4a47-8c75-13c32ccfa3aa?referrer=https:%2F%2Fwww.saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk%2Fremotelearning%2F>
- Teachers can then set further work and check this to continue to support students as we go forward.
- Year 11 students have also received large work packs and revision resources.
- Other online learning platforms that school subscribe to are all available on the College Website <https://www.saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk/remotelearning/>.

The staff have been absolutely fantastic and will endeavour where possible to maintain this daily routine. We do all however have to appreciate that staff will have their own children, health and situations to manage at home. There is a contingency measure in place if there is a situation in which a teacher cannot continue to do this. Students will be able to contact a centralised subject help desk so they can get help from a subject specialist in this situation.

We continue to follow updates from the government and will continue to communicate with everyone in our community via our MyEd app, email, our official Facebook page: (<https://business.facebook.com/StsPnPCC>) and on our school website (<https://www.saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk>).

Thank you in advance of your support and understanding at this challenging time, it is at times like this that our special community spirit is at full strength. We will hopefully see you all back at school very soon. In the meantime, if you require any further information from the school, please contact us as above.

Yours faithfully



Principal – Saints Peter & Paul Catholic School