



# WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

Our ref: JMK/SXG

17 March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

## **Temporary closure of the school to Year 8 and 9 students only**

Following the Government update yesterday on Coronavirus, I have been informed today of a number of staff who are 'at increased risk' of severe illness from Coronavirus as identified by the Government. These staff are advised to be particularly stringent in following social distancing measures and, as such, should not be working in school.

Consequently, I will not have adequate staff in school to provide education for all year groups. I am, therefore, temporarily closing the school to Years 8 and 9 only with effect from Wednesday 18 March 2020 until further notice. Staff remaining in school will be redeployed to help supervise lessons for other year groups.

We will continue to try and keep the school open for other year groups for as long as possible, subject to staffing levels or a directive from the Government. If a further reduction in staffing levels occurs, the school will close to other year groups in the order of Year 10, Year 12, Year 7, Year 11 and Year 13. The decision to retain Year 7 in school for as long as possible is to support parents in providing childcare arrangements for our youngest students. Priority will also be given to Year 11 and 13 as they are exam groups.

All internal events on the school calendar have now been cancelled, including the school production of 'Sweet Charity' scheduled for this week.

I would be grateful if you can keep up to date with the Public Health England guidance on Coronavirus via the website below, which is currently being updated daily:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

## **For parents of Year 8 and 9 students and any students self-isolating**

I realise that not attending school causes potential disruption to your child's learning and routine. The school has put in place steps to help them continue to learn whilst at home through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), our on-line platform, where work will be set by your child's teachers. It is important that your child uses this resource daily and we ask that you support them to access and complete work to advance their learning. Your child has written their username and email address in their diary and should be familiar with how to access work on the VLE from lessons. I will be sending home with your child information on how they can log onto the VLE and this is also available on the school website ([www.williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk)) under the Information section. The VLE can be accessed through a variety of electronic devices, including phones and tablets. If your child has any problems logging onto the VLE, please e-mail our senior IT technician, Mr Carlyle, ([j.carlyle@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:j.carlyle@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk)), who will provide any assistance required.



Teachers will set work either for each lesson or for a number of lessons in advance. Your child will have an opportunity to submit work and questions via the VLE and feedback will be provided where appropriate.

Your child has been given a paper copy of this letter today and the accompanying information on how to access the VLE.

I will keep you updated on developments via the school website and parent email. If you have any questions on whole school arrangements, please email the school. ([wfarr@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:wfarr@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk)).

I appreciate that this is a difficult time for families and children, but can assure you the school is taking every step possible to minimise the impact on your child's learning and fulfil our duty of care to staff.

May I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr J Knowler', written over a horizontal line.

**Mr J Knowler**  
**Headteacher**