



WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

Our ref: JMK/SXG

19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Closure of School due to Coronavirus

We have been instructed by the Department for Education to close the school to all students except those students whose parents are key workers or have particular defined needs (see later section). This is part of the national strategy to delay the further spread of Coronavirus. **With effect from Monday 23 March, William Farr School will be closed until further notice.**

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 students 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. Further information on how they can log onto the VLE is also available on the school website (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), 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.

Please note that work will be available on the VLE from Tuesday 24 March. Your child should carry out independent study/revision on Monday 23 March.

Also included on the VLE, under the Care and Guidance/Student Welfare section, are signposts to support students on maintaining positive mental wellbeing; including child-friendly information on the Coronavirus and support for managing stress and anxieties.

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

This year's summer examinations for Year 11 and 13 will also not go ahead, with the government pledging to work with the exams regulator "to ensure children get the qualifications that they need". We are awaiting further clarification on how qualifications will be awarded and will let you know once we have further information. The school will continue to set work for any Year 11 and 13 students via the VLE in the normal way.

During the school closure, your child's attendance will be recorded with a special code for exceptional circumstances (Y). This means that their attendance will not be adversely affected by their absence from school.

I will keep you informed of any changes to the school closure via the school website and parent e-mail. If you have any questions on whole school arrangements, please e-mail the school (wfarr@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk).



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>

Students whose parents are key workers or have particular defined needs

The government has asked schools to only remain open to students whose parents are key workers or have an Education Health and Care Plan or social worker. If your child falls into one of these categories they are eligible to attend school.

For safeguarding and planning reasons we must know in advance which students are intending to come into school during the school closure.

You have been emailed a copy of this letter and a registration form. If you wish for your child to continue to attend school, **please complete the electronic registration form and return it to closureregistration@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk by 12 noon on Friday 20 March.** Please can registration forms only be returned via this e-mail address.

School will be open for these students only from Monday 23 March. For replies received after 12 noon on Friday 20 March, students will be given an alternative start date.

Students attending school on Monday 23 March should be in full school uniform and report to the main hall at 9am. Please note that the normal school behaviour policy applies whilst children are in school.

The school will be open in a caring capacity rather than a teaching capacity and students will be supervised completing the work set via the VLE.

For next week until we know the number of students attending school, please can your child bring a packed lunch with them.

Parents should assume there is no public transport available and should make their own arrangements for their child to travel to and from school. Please contact Lincolnshire County Council if you require any further information.

The school will be open Monday to Friday from 8.30 – 3.45pm. Please can you arrange for your child to be collected by 4pm each day.

Free School Meals

If your child is not attending school and is eligible for a free school meal, please email (wfarr@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk) if you wish to order a packed lunch each day next week. Collection will be available from the school reception between 11.30 and 12.30pm. This is a temporary situation whilst we await further guidance regarding the government voucher scheme.

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 during these unprecedented times.

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

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Knowler
Headteacher