



17 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Coronavirus – Partial School Closure

During the course of today we have reviewed the impact of the coronavirus on staff and student attendance; the Government advice on self-isolation has had an immediate impact on this.

I have reluctantly reached the conclusion, as a result of staff illness and the Government directive regarding self-isolation, that I can no longer safely keep the school open to all students.

The current Government advice is as follows:

- If you live with someone who has developed the virus symptoms, self-isolate for 14 days.
- If you have an underlying health condition, or are pregnant, you should minimise social contact.

This has had a significant impact on the number of staff that will be able to attend school for at least the next 14 days and potentially longer. At this juncture, the Government has not directed schools to close and we are therefore trying to do our best to remain open for certain year groups.

Having reviewed the amount of cover required in school we have made the decision to ask the following Year groups to stay at home as follows:

Students required to attend school	Wednesday 18th March	Thursday 19th March	Friday 20th March
Year 7	✓	✓	✓
Year 8	✓	✓	Stay at home
Year 9	✓	Stay at home	✓
Year 10	Stay at home	✓	✓
Year 11	✓	✓	✓

In summary:

- Year 10 will not be required to attend school on Wednesday 18 March, but should return on Thursday 19 March.
- Year 9 will not be required to attend school on Thursday 19th March, but should return on Friday 20 March
- Year 8 will not be required to attend school on Friday 20 March.

As I am sure you appreciate this is a difficult situation to manage. Year groups that have been asked to remain at home this week will have work set on Classcharts and we are currently collating work packs for students in the event that we are directed to close the school for an extended period.

A decision will be made on Thursday regarding the provision for the week commencing 23 March, this will be dependent on the number of staff self-isolating or ill for other reasons.

For closed year groups, we would like to continue to offer a provision for vulnerable students for example, looked after children or with Education and Health Care Plans. For children of health workers, teachers, care home workers, we may be able to offer a provision. If parents or children fall into these groups, and provision is required please email admin@warblingtonschool.co.uk by 8:00am on the day of partial closure.

Please encourage your child to make every effort with their work, both at home and at school. The more routine that can be established, the less unsettling the current situation is for all.

This is a challenging and stressful time for everyone and I am very aware of the impact that a partial close will have on families, so please be assured this is not a decision that has been taken lightly.

We are waiting further guidance from the Government and will update you accordingly.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Hartnell
Headteacher