



20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils**

At the end of school today, we close for the foreseeable whilst the country works together to ensure the safety of everybody. As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

That is why the government has given clear guidance on [self-isolation](#), [household isolation](#) and [social distancing](#) and why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. Government have released advice for parents as follows: [guidance for parents](#).

It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe. Therefore, we would like to remind you that the government are advising the following key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be *and to only send them to school if there is no safe alternative*.
2. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

Other than those who have been identified, all children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

**No child is to be sent to school if the family is self-isolating.**

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by our usual source of ParentMail, the website and via social media platforms of Facebook and Twitter. As we found on 19 March, Parentmail did receive a high volume of use and therefore went down for a while so please be assured we are monitoring.


**What we'll continue doing while your child is at home**

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.



- All work is now on Classcharts for your child to access. This will be updated by staff who are working from home to set lessons and use the feedback from the work completed to set further work. If you have indicated to us that working online was an issue, work packs are now available and have either been sent home with your child or are available to collect in reception.
- We expect all students to complete the work online, and will be monitoring logons to Classcharts as a way of checking attendance and work being completed.
- Details of how to contact the school, either generally, for IT support or individual teachers have been given to children today or are also contained in this letter.

We have also put the following on Classcharts to ensure children remain safe:



**Warblington School** During a school closure, we want to support you to stay safe.  
Growing minds, successful futures

**School will not be open until further notice and you will need to complete the work set in order to be ready to go once we do come back.**

If you have any worries, no matter how small they may seem, email [Keepintouch@warblingtonschool.co.uk](mailto:Keepintouch@warblingtonschool.co.uk). This email will be checked during week days by me and someone will email you back.

If you have concerns or worries and you need to talk to someone, contact [ChildLine](https://www.childline.org.uk) [https://www.childline.org.uk/](https://www.childline.org.uk) or phone them on 0800 1111

**If you are in danger or need immediate help, please phone 999**

If you need help with your work, please send all emails to [Yearx@warblingtonschool.co.uk](mailto:Yearx@warblingtonschool.co.uk) (where x is the year group you are in eg year9 –

- the subject should be the teacher's name (eg Mrs Briggs).
- Write your message as you normally would.

This will then alert the member of staff there is a message for them and you will receive a reply from that email. Do not email teachers directly, even if you have their email addresses.

If you have IT issues, either email [icthelp@warblingtonschool.co.uk](mailto:icthelp@warblingtonschool.co.uk) or phone the school on 02392 475480.

If you are concerned a member of your family is ill, then phone 111 to get medical advice.

***Remember we all have a responsibility to do everything we can to ensure all of us are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. Children should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.***

These are difficult times, but please be assured we are all here to help.

*Take care and stay safe.*

If your child is in receipt of free school meals, on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> we will be offering a hot meal between 11 – 1, which they can eat in the café. Children can come in at any point during this time, eat and then leave. If they prefer to take away their meal, they will be able to. We are hoping that by the end of Monday we will have more information about the voucher scheme the government is proposing to introduce and we will share this with you once I have all the information.

**What we won't be able to go ahead with:**

**We are unfortunately having to cancel the following until further notice:**

- All GCSE examinations (further details will follow regarding this)
- Year 7 Parent's evening (1 April)
- Year 10 Geography field trip to Hayling (29 April)
- Year 9 Parent's Evening (6 May)
- Year 10 Work Experience (11 May)

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Please see below a list of support agencies who you may find helpful at this difficult time:

- Two Saints (Housing)- 02392 477863
- Step Change (Debt/Benefits/Finance) 0800138111
- The Bridge Advice Centre (Debt/Benefits/Financial help) 02392 468835
- Citizen's Advice (Benefits/work/housing/Law and courts/Health) 03444111444 or text 03444111445. The webpage also offers chat lines.
- Off the Record (Counselling for students) 07709 552130
- MIND (Mental Health) 0300123 3393
- Italk (Mental Health) 023 8038 3920
- SDAS (Domestic Abuse) 02392 480246
- Samaritans (Someone to talk to if you are finding it hard to cope) 116 123 (Free day or night)
- Young Carers 023 92785111 / 07709552130 / 07923400250

Most of these agencies also have very helpful websites.

If you need support to contact these agencies- or if you have any additional, concerns- please contact: [l.copeman@warblingtonschool.co.uk](mailto:l.copeman@warblingtonschool.co.uk)

**And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).**

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Please, stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Hartnell  
Headteacher